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the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

MAXIMUM CARNAGE

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MAXIMUM CARNAGE

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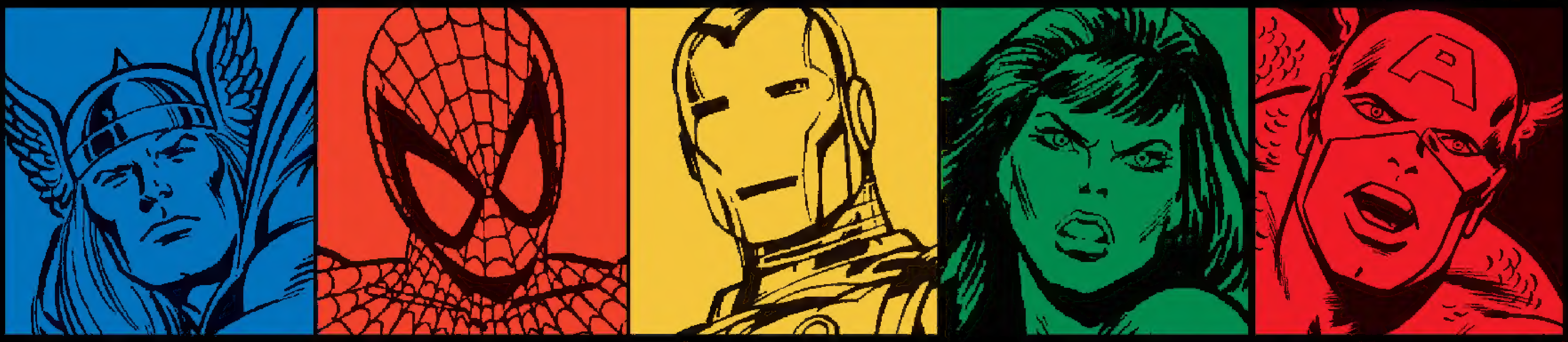

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"MAXIMUM CARNAGE, PART THIRTEEN: WAR OF THE HEART!"

SPIDER-MAN UNLIMITED #2, AUGUST 1993
"THE HATRED, THE HORROR AND THE HERO! CHAPTER FOURTEEN"

SPIDER-MAN/PUNISHER/SABRETOOTH: DESIGNER GENES, 1993

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BEGINS HERE!
SPIDER-MAN
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1
MAY
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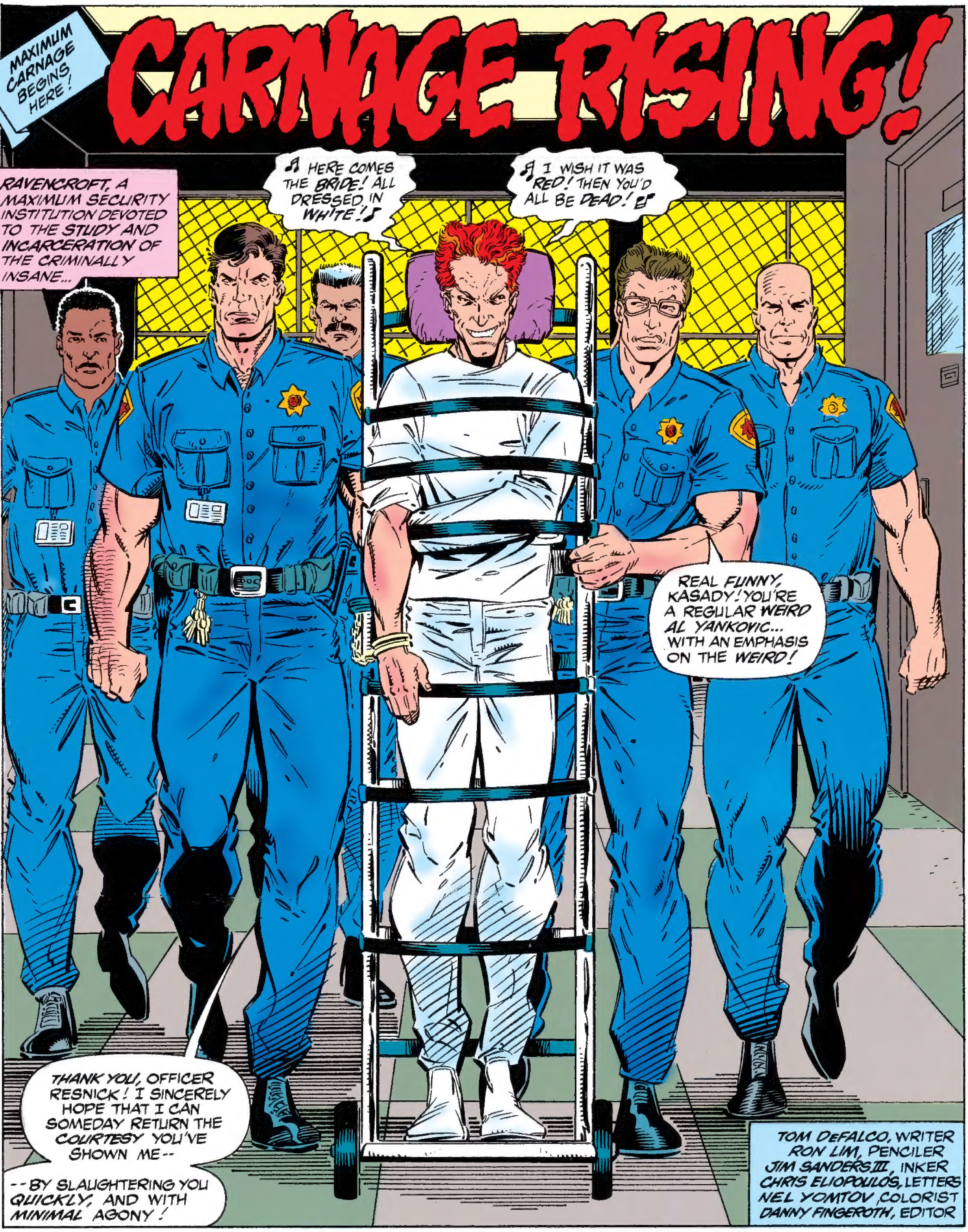
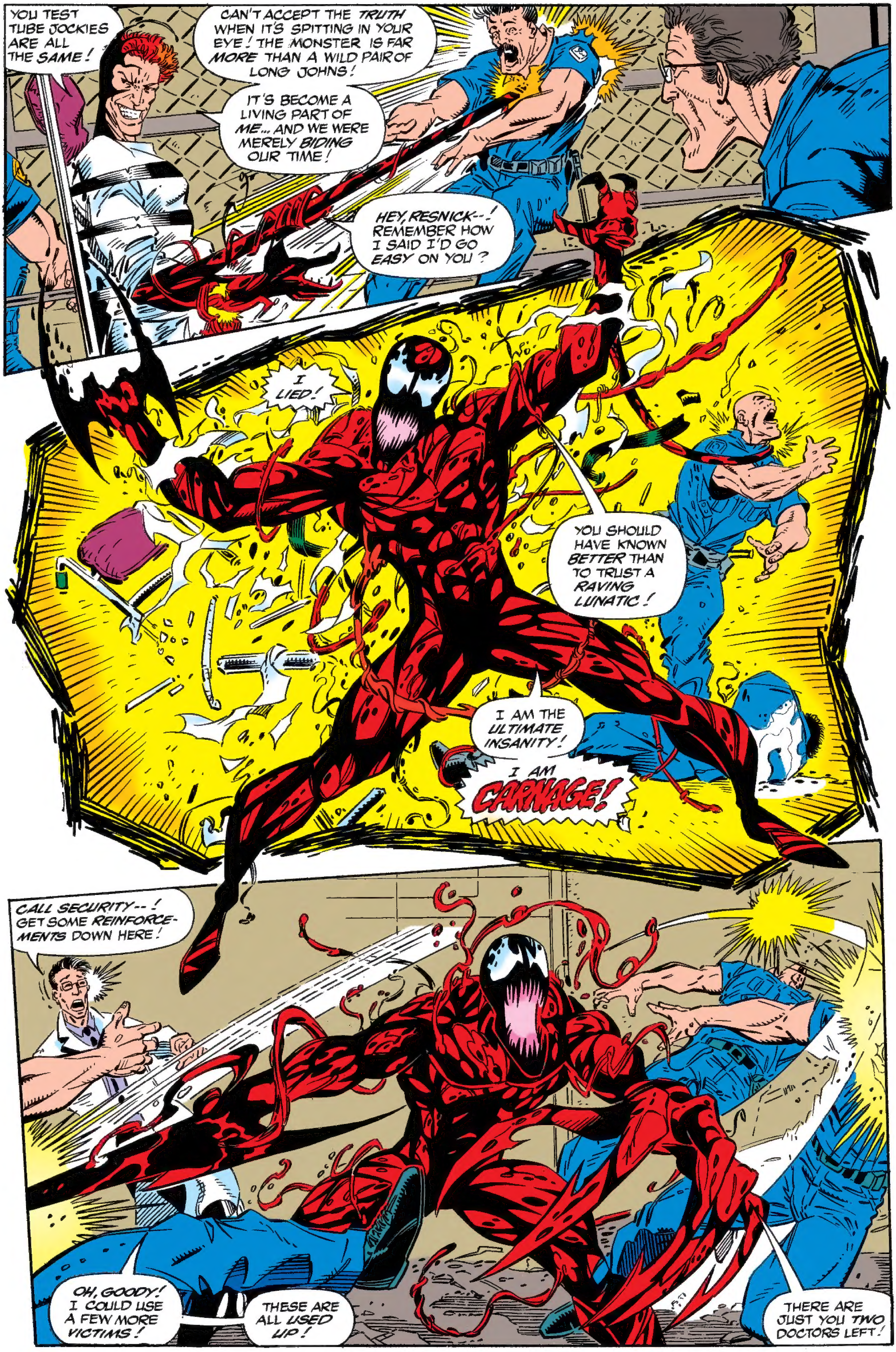
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
IRON MAN
1963
1993
FABULOUS 1ST ISSUE!

*BITTEN BY A RADIOACTIVE SPIDER, STUDENT **PETER PARKER** GAINED THE PROPORTIONATE STRENGTH AND AGILITY OF AN ARACHNID! ARMED WITH HIS WONDROUS WEB-SHOOTERS, THE RELUCTANT SUPER HERO STRUGGLES WITH SINISTER SUPER-VILLAINS, MAKING ENDS MEET, AND MAINTAINING SOME SEMBLANCE OF A NORMAL LIFE!*

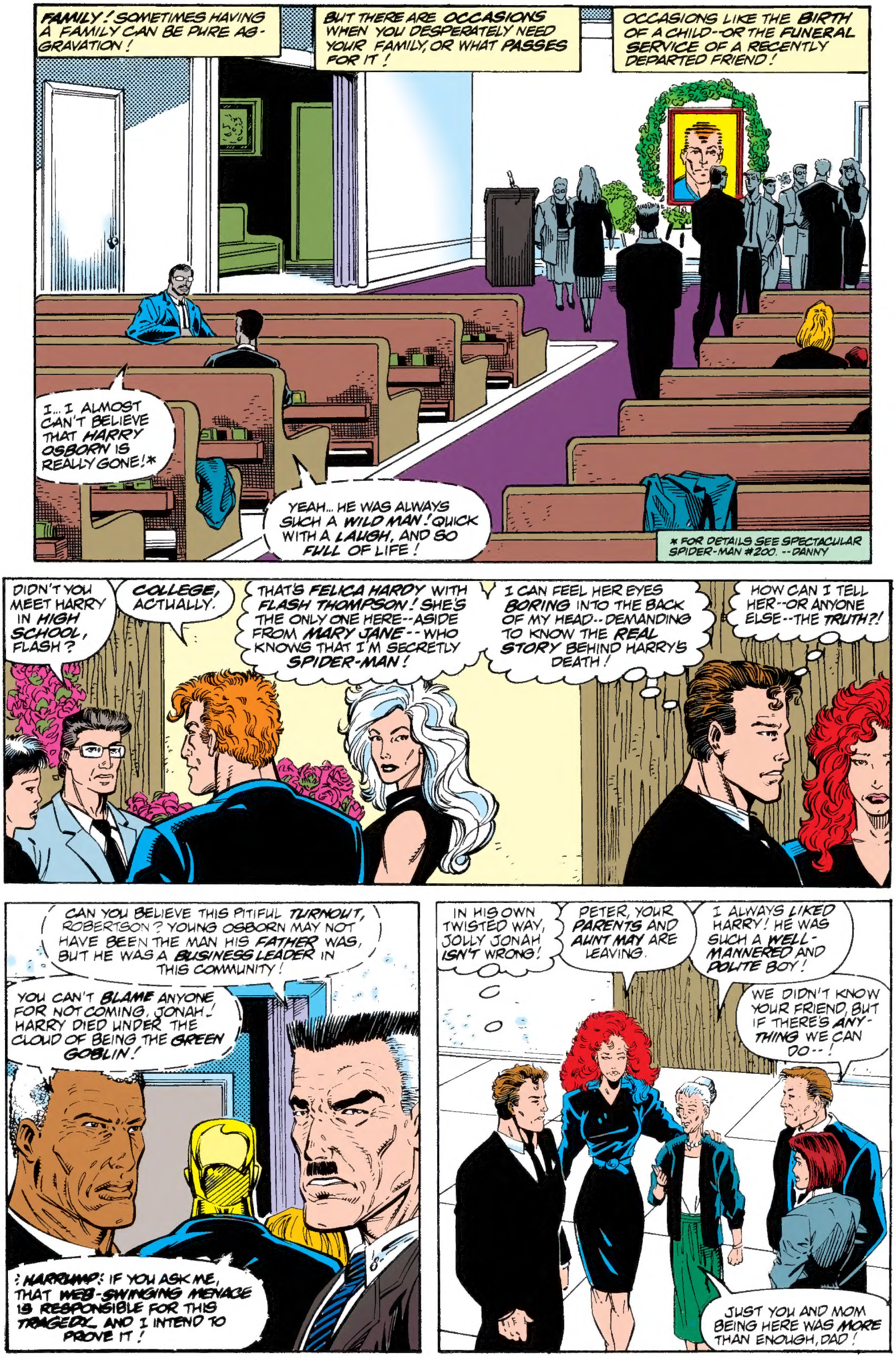
Stan Lee PRESENTS: THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN®

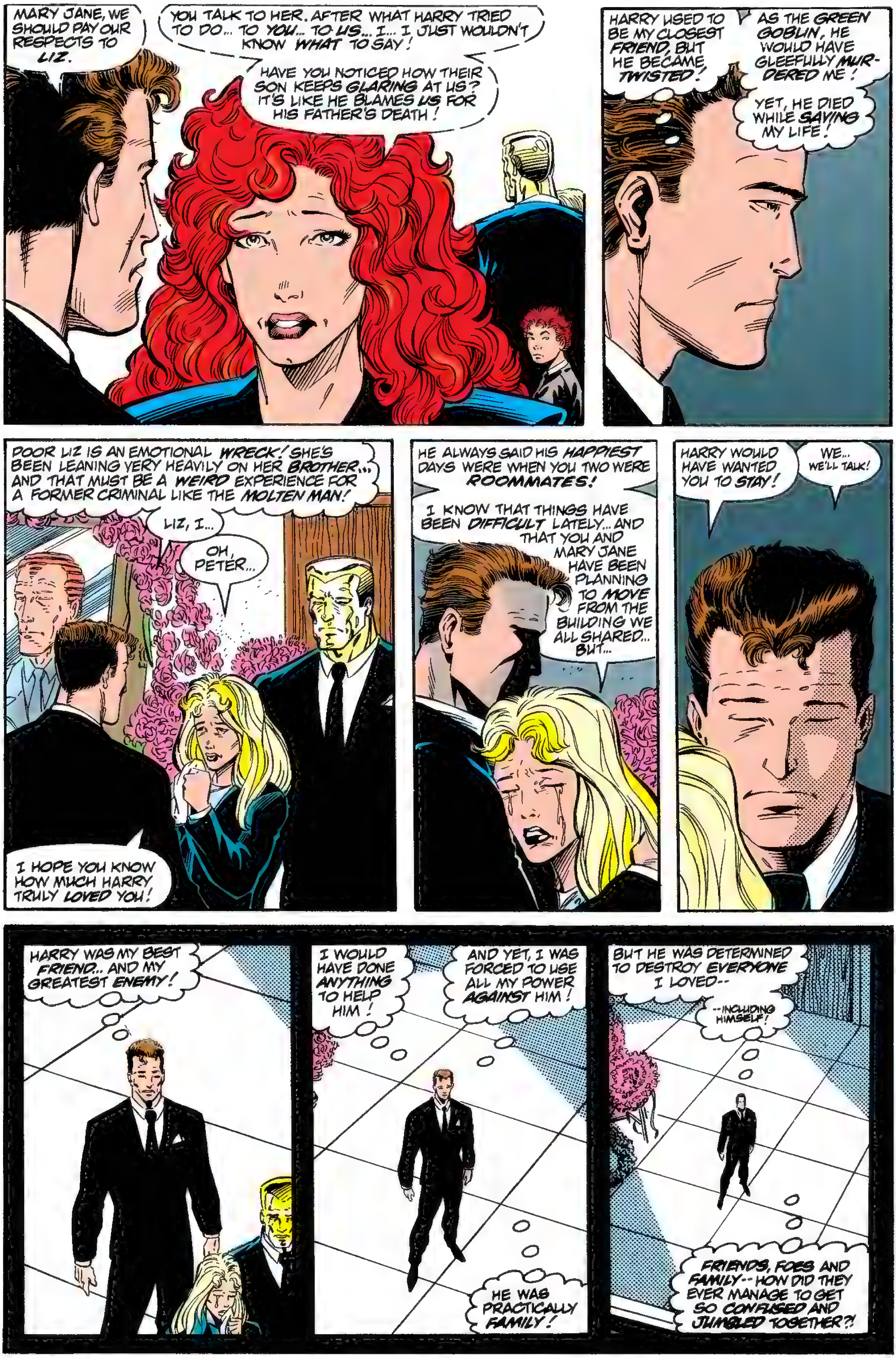

MAXIMUM CARNAGE BEGINS HERE!
CARNAGE RISING!
RAVENCROFT, A MAXIMUM SECURITY INSTITUTION DEVOTED TO THE STUDY AND INCARCERATION OF THE CRIMINALLY INSANE...
♪ HERE COMES THE BRIDE! ALL DRESSED IN WHITE! ♪
♪ I WISH IT WAS RED! THEN YOU'D ALL BE DEAD! ♪
REAL FUNNY, KASADY! YOU'RE A REGULAR WEIRD AL YANKOVIC... WITH AN EMPHASIS ON THE WEIRD!
THANK YOU, OFFICER RESNICK! I SINCERELY HOPE THAT I CAN SOMEDAY RETURN THE COURTESY YOU'VE SHOWN ME--
--BY SLAUGHTERING YOU QUICKLY, AND WITH MINIMAL AGONY!
TOM DeFALCO, WRITER
RON LIM, PENCILER
JIM SANDERS III, INKER
CHRIS ELIOPOULOS, LETTERS
NEL YOMTOV, COLORIST
DANNY FINGEROTH, EDITOR

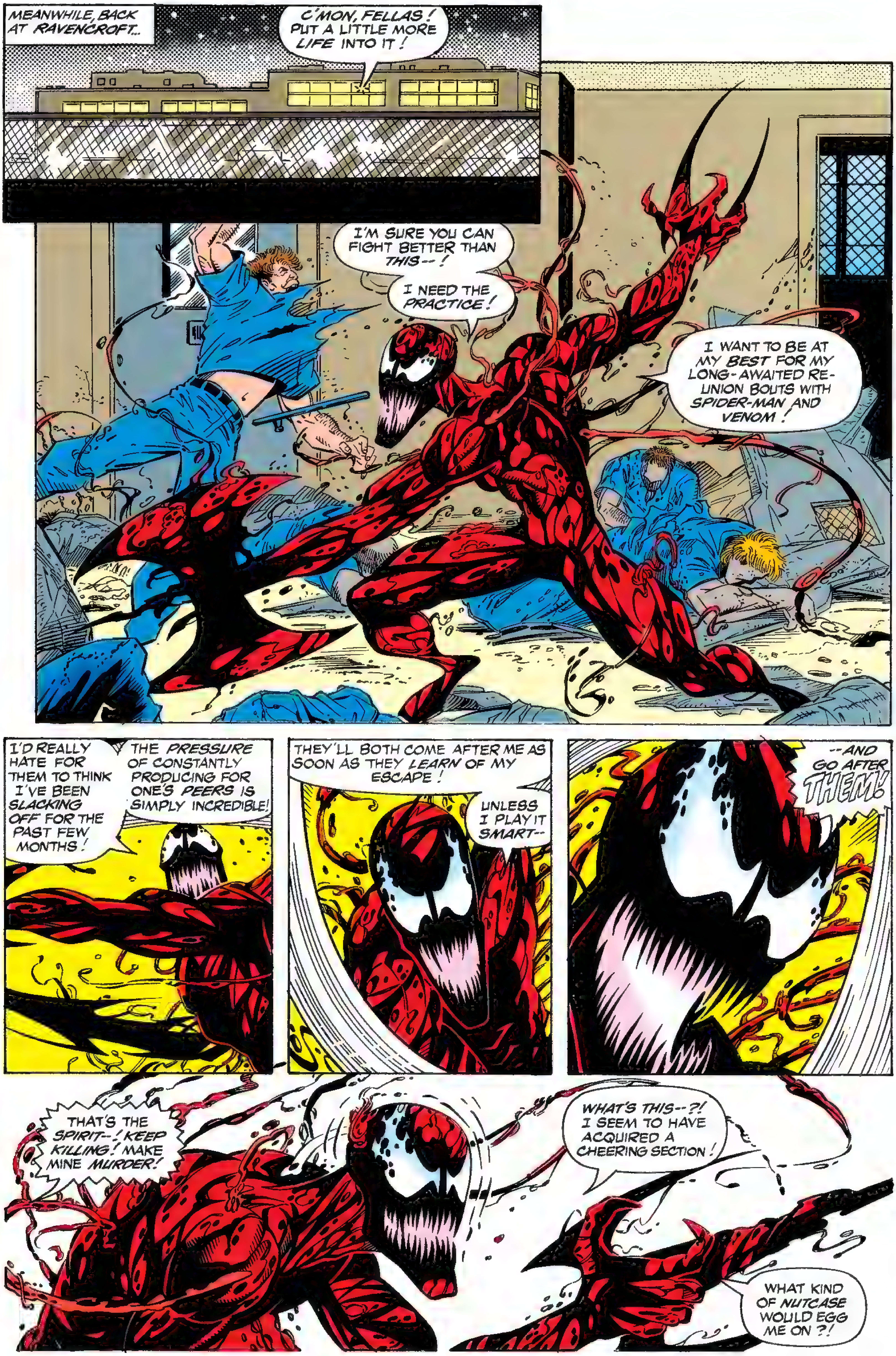
IN YOUR *DREAMS,* SICKO!
HERE'S YOUR MAN, DR. POURNELLA... *CLETUS KASADY*... OR *CARNAGE*... AS HE'S BETTER KNOWN IN THE POPULAR PRESS!
IS IT REALLY NECESSARY TO CONDUCT EXPERIMENTS ON SUCH A *DANGEROUS* SUBJECT, POURNELLA?
THE MAN IS A CONVICTED *SERIAL KILLER* WHO USED TO DRESS UP IN SOME GAUDY *RED COSTUME!*
RELAX, DR. LANDIS! KASADY'S BEEN RESIDING IN *THE VAULT,* THE GOVERNMENT'S FACILITY FOR SUPERHUMAN CRIMINALS!
THEY'VE GIVEN HIM A *CLEAN* BILL OF HEALTH...
...EXCEPT FOR AN UNEXPLAINED *ANOMALY* WHICH KEEPS REGISTERING IN HIS *BLOOD* TESTS!
OOOO! SOUNDS PRETTY *SCARY!*
THERE *IS* SOMETHING *DIFFERENT* ABOUT MY BLOOD! THERE'S A *MONSTER* LIVING WITHIN IT!
BE CAREFUL! YOU DON'T WANT TO ACCIDENTALLY SET IT *FREE!*
THERE ARE MONSTERS WITHIN *ALL* OF US, MR. KASADY!
BUT, ONLY CERTAIN RARE INDIVIDUALS, LIKE YOURSELF, GIVE FREE *VENT* TO THEM!
YOUR *ANOMALY* MAY BE A MANIFESTATION OF A *CHEMICAL IMBALANCE* WHICH CAUSES MENTAL INSTABILITY!
IF WE CAN *ISOLATE* AND *ANALYZE* IT, WE MAY EVENTUALLY LEARN HOW TO TREAT INDIVIDUALS LIKE YOU!
AND PEOPLE CALL *ME CRAZY!*
YOU SHOULD HAVE *LISTENED,* DOC! I *WARNED* YOU--!
THERE REALLY *IS* A MONSTER *HIDING* WITHIN ME!

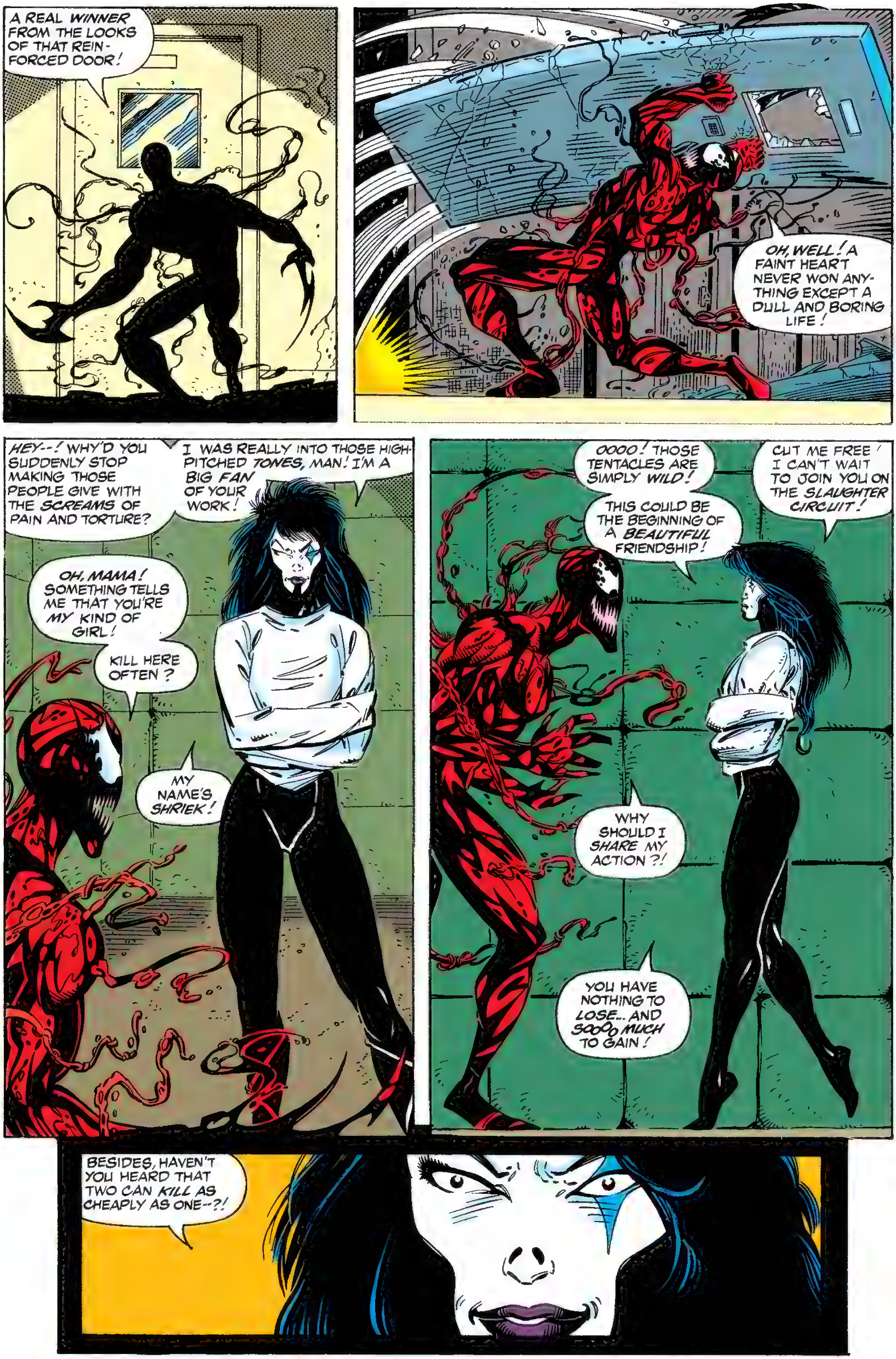

YOU TEST TUBE JOCKIES ARE ALL THE *SAME*!
CAN'T ACCEPT THE *TRUTH* WHEN IT'S SPITTING IN YOUR EYE! THE MONSTER IS FAR *MORE* THAN A WILD PAIR OF LONG JOHNS!
IT'S BECOME A LIVING PART OF *ME*... AND WE WERE MERELY *BIDING* OUR TIME!
HEY, RESNICK--! REMEMBER HOW I SAID I'D GO EASY ON YOU?
I LIED!
YOU SHOULD HAVE KNOWN *BETTER* THAN TO TRUST A *RAVING LUNATIC*!
I AM THE *ULTIMATE INSANITY*!
I AM CARNAGE!
CALL SECURITY--! GET SOME REINFORCEMENTS DOWN HERE!
OH, GOODY! I COULD USE A FEW MORE VICTIMS!
THESE ARE ALL *USED UP*!
THERE ARE JUST YOU *TWO* DOCTORS LEFT!

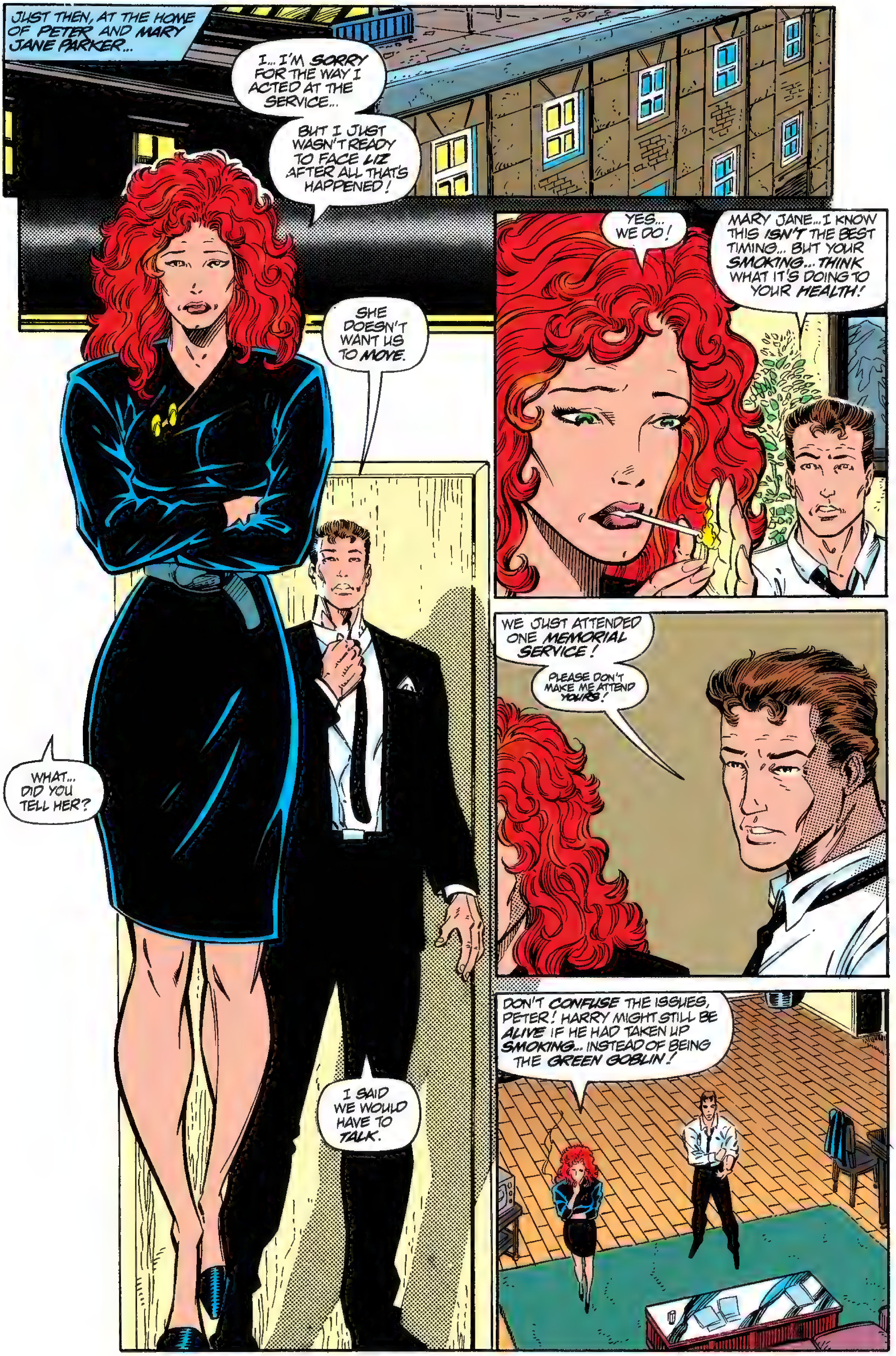
WHOOPS! MAKE THAT ONE--!
ANY LAST WORDS, SWEETIE?
LET ME HELP YOU, MR. KASADY! I'M YOUR ONLY HOPE! I CAN EASE YOUR PAIN!
I'VE DEVOTED MY ENTIRE LIFE TO CURING PEOPLE LIKE YOU... AND RIDDING THE WORLD OF SERIAL KILLERS!
I AM DEEPLY TOUCHED BY YOUR OBVIOUS SINCERITY, DOCTOR POURNELLA! UNFORTUNATELY, YOUR ENTIRE LIFE HAS BEEN A SICK JOKE!
A TOTAL WASTE!
NOT ONLY HAVE YOU IRRESPONSIBLY RELEASED THE WORST SERIAL KILLER OF ALL, BUT I'M GOING TO CELEBRATE MY NEWFOUND FREEDOM--
--BY SLAYING EVERY INHABITANT WITHIN YOUR PRECIOUS INSTITUTE!

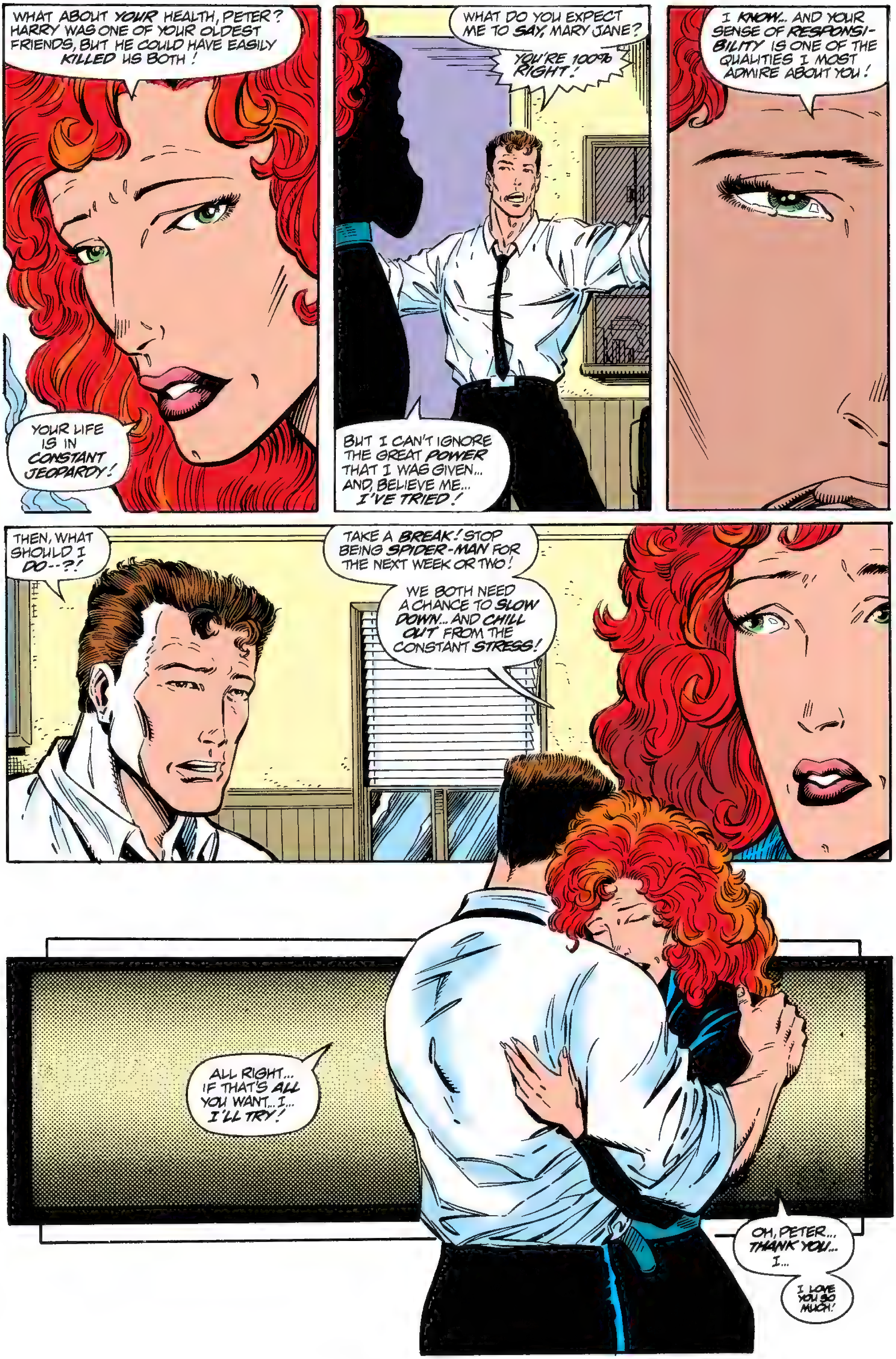

FAMILY! SOMETIMES HAVING A FAMILY CAN BE PURE AGGRAVATION!
BUT THERE ARE OCCASIONS WHEN YOU DESPERATELY NEED YOUR FAMILY, OR WHAT PASSES FOR IT!
OCCASIONS LIKE THE BIRTH OF A CHILD--OR THE FUNERAL SERVICE OF A RECENTLY DEPARTED FRIEND!
I... I ALMOST CAN'T BELIEVE THAT HARRY OSBORN IS REALLY GONE!*
YEAH... HE WAS ALWAYS SUCH A WILD MAN! QUICK WITH A LAUGH, AND SO FULL OF LIFE!
* FOR DETAILS SEE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #200. --DANNY
DIDN'T YOU MEET HARRY IN HIGH SCHOOL, FLASH?
COLLEGE, ACTUALLY.
THAT'S FELICA HARDY WITH FLASH THOMPSON! SHE'S THE ONLY ONE HERE--ASIDE FROM MARY JANE--WHO KNOWS THAT I'M SECRETLY SPIDER-MAN!
I CAN FEEL HER EYES BORING INTO THE BACK OF MY HEAD--DEMANDING TO KNOW THE REAL STORY BEHIND HARRY'S DEATH!
HOW CAN I TELL HER--OR ANYONE ELSE--THE TRUTH?!
CAN YOU BELIEVE THIS PITIFUL TURNOUT, ROBERTSON? YOUNG OSBORN MAY NOT HAVE BEEN THE MAN HIS FATHER WAS, BUT HE WAS A BUSINESS LEADER IN THIS COMMUNITY!
YOU CAN'T BLAME ANYONE FOR NOT COMING, JONAH! HARRY DIED UNDER THE CLOUD OF BEING THE GREEN GOBLIN!
:HARRUMP: IF YOU ASK ME, THAT WEB-SWINGING MENACE IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS TRAGEDY, AND I INTEND TO PROVE IT!
IN HIS OWN TWISTED WAY, JOLLY JONAH ISN'T WRONG!
PETER, YOUR PARENTS AND AUNT MAY ARE LEAVING.
I ALWAYS LIKED HARRY! HE WAS SUCH A WELL-MANNERED AND POLITE BOY!
WE DIDN'T KNOW YOUR FRIEND, BUT IF THERE'S ANYTHING WE CAN DO--!
JUST YOU AND MOM BEING HERE WAS MORE THAN ENOUGH, DAD!

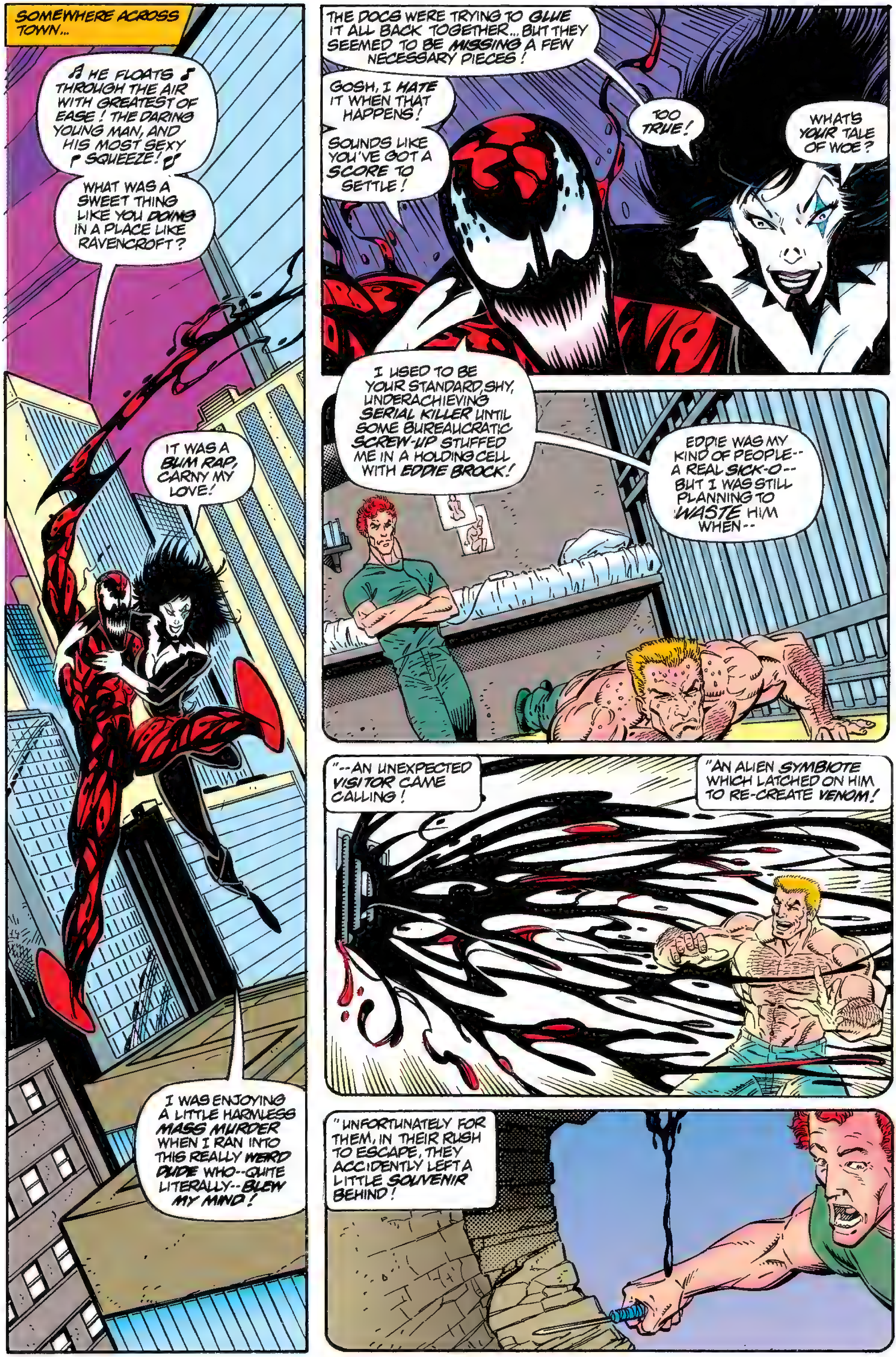

MARY JANE, WE SHOULD PAY OUR RESPECTS TO *LIZ*.
YOU TALK TO HER. AFTER WHAT HARRY TRIED TO DO... TO *YOU*... TO *US*... I... I JUST WOULDN'T KNOW *WHAT* TO SAY!
HAVE YOU NOTICED HOW THEIR SON KEEPS *GLARING* AT US? IT'S LIKE HE BLAMES *US* FOR HIS FATHER'S DEATH!
HARRY USED TO BE MY CLOSEST *FRIEND*, BUT HE BECAME *TWISTED*!
AS THE *GREEN GOBLIN*, HE WOULD HAVE GLEEFULLY *MURDERED* ME!
YET, HE DIED WHILE *SAVING* MY LIFE!
POOR LIZ IS AN EMOTIONAL *WRECK*! SHE'S BEEN LEANING VERY HEAVILY ON HER *BROTHER*... AND THAT MUST BE A *WEIRD* EXPERIENCE FOR A FORMER CRIMINAL LIKE THE *MOLTEN MAN*!
LIZ, I...
OH, PETER...
I HOPE YOU KNOW HOW MUCH HARRY TRULY *LOVED* YOU!
HE ALWAYS SAID HIS *HAPPIEST* DAYS WERE WHEN YOU TWO WERE *ROOMMATES!*
I KNOW THAT THINGS HAVE BEEN *DIFFICULT* LATELY... AND THAT YOU AND MARY JANE HAVE BEEN PLANNING TO *MOVE* FROM THE BUILDING WE ALL SHARED... BUT...
HARRY WOULD HAVE WANTED YOU TO *STAY*!
WE... WE'LL TALK!
HARRY WAS MY BEST *FRIEND*... AND MY GREATEST *ENEMY*!
I WOULD HAVE DONE *ANYTHING* TO HELP HIM!
AND YET, I WAS FORCED TO USE ALL MY POWER *AGAINST* HIM!
HE WAS PRACTICALLY *FAMILY*!
BUT HE WAS DETERMINED TO DESTROY *EVERYONE* I LOVED--
--INCLUDING HIMSELF!
FRIENDS, FOES AND *FAMILY*-- HOW DID THEY EVER MANAGE TO GET SO *CONFUSED* AND *JUMBLED* TOGETHER?!

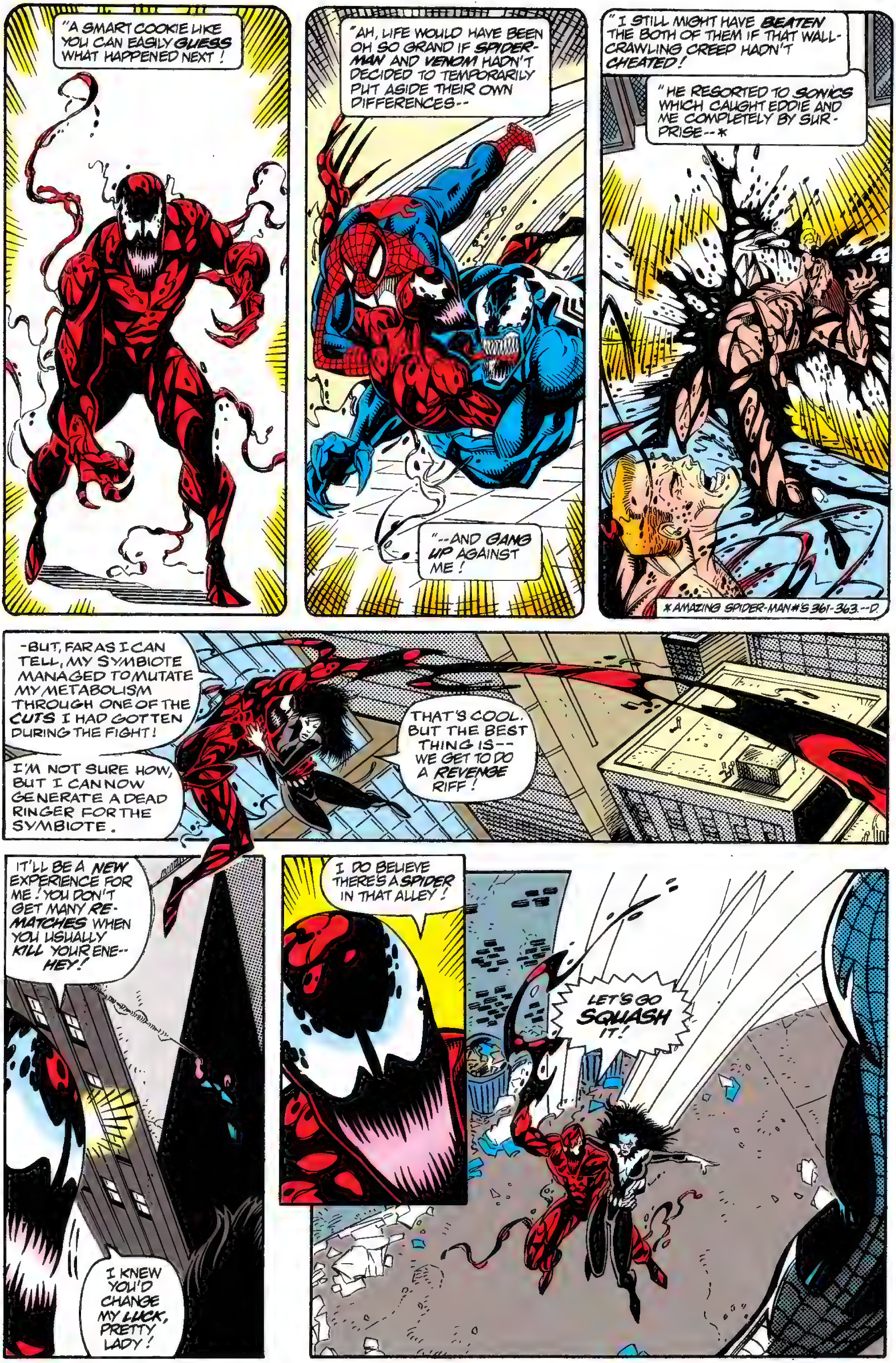

MEANWHILE, BACK AT RAVENCROFT...
C'MON, FELLAS! PUT A LITTLE MORE LIFE INTO IT!
I'M SURE YOU CAN FIGHT BETTER THAN THIS--!
I NEED THE PRACTICE!
I WANT TO BE AT MY BEST FOR MY LONG-AWAITED REUNION BOUTS WITH SPIDER-MAN AND VENOM!
I'D REALLY HATE FOR THEM TO THINK I'VE BEEN SLACKING OFF FOR THE PAST FEW MONTHS!
THE PRESSURE OF CONSTANTLY PRODUCING FOR ONE'S PEERS IS SIMPLY INCREDIBLE!
THEY'LL BOTH COME AFTER ME AS SOON AS THEY LEARN OF MY ESCAPE!
UNLESS I PLAY IT SMART--
--AND GO AFTER THEM!
THAT'S THE SPIRIT--! KEEP KILLING! MAKE MINE MURDER!
WHAT'S THIS--?! I SEEM TO HAVE ACQUIRED A CHEERING SECTION!
WHAT KIND OF NUTCASE WOULD EGG ME ON?!

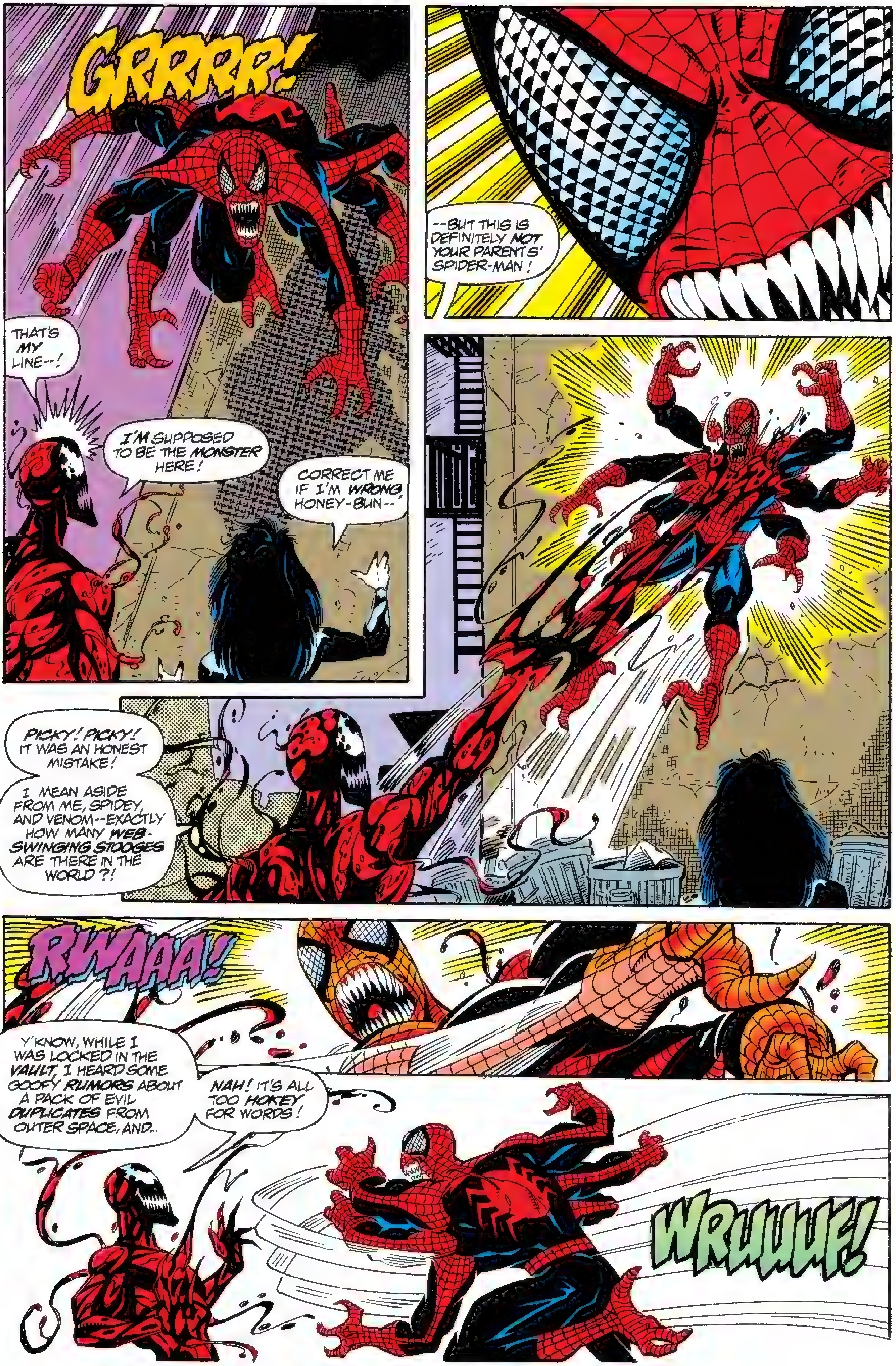

A REAL *WINNER* FROM THE LOOKS OF THAT REINFORCED DOOR!
OH, WELL! A FAINT HEART NEVER WON ANYTHING EXCEPT A DULL AND BORING LIFE!
HEY--! WHY'D YOU SUDDENLY STOP MAKING THOSE PEOPLE GIVE WITH THE *SCREAMS* OF PAIN AND TORTURE?
I WAS REALLY INTO THOSE HIGH-PITCHED *TONES,* MAN! I'M A BIG *FAN* OF YOUR WORK!
OH, MAMA! SOMETHING TELLS ME THAT YOU'RE *MY* KIND OF GIRL!
KILL HERE OFTEN?
MY NAME'S *SHRIEK!*
OOOO! THOSE TENTACLES ARE SIMPLY *WILD!*
THIS COULD BE THE BEGINNING OF A *BEAUTIFUL* FRIENDSHIP!
CUT ME FREE! I CAN'T WAIT TO JOIN YOU ON THE *SLAUGHTER CIRCUIT!*
WHY SHOULD I *SHARE* MY ACTION?!
YOU HAVE NOTHING TO *LOSE*... AND *SOOOO MUCH* TO GAIN!
BESIDES, HAVEN'T YOU HEARD THAT TWO CAN *KILL* AS CHEAPLY AS ONE--?!

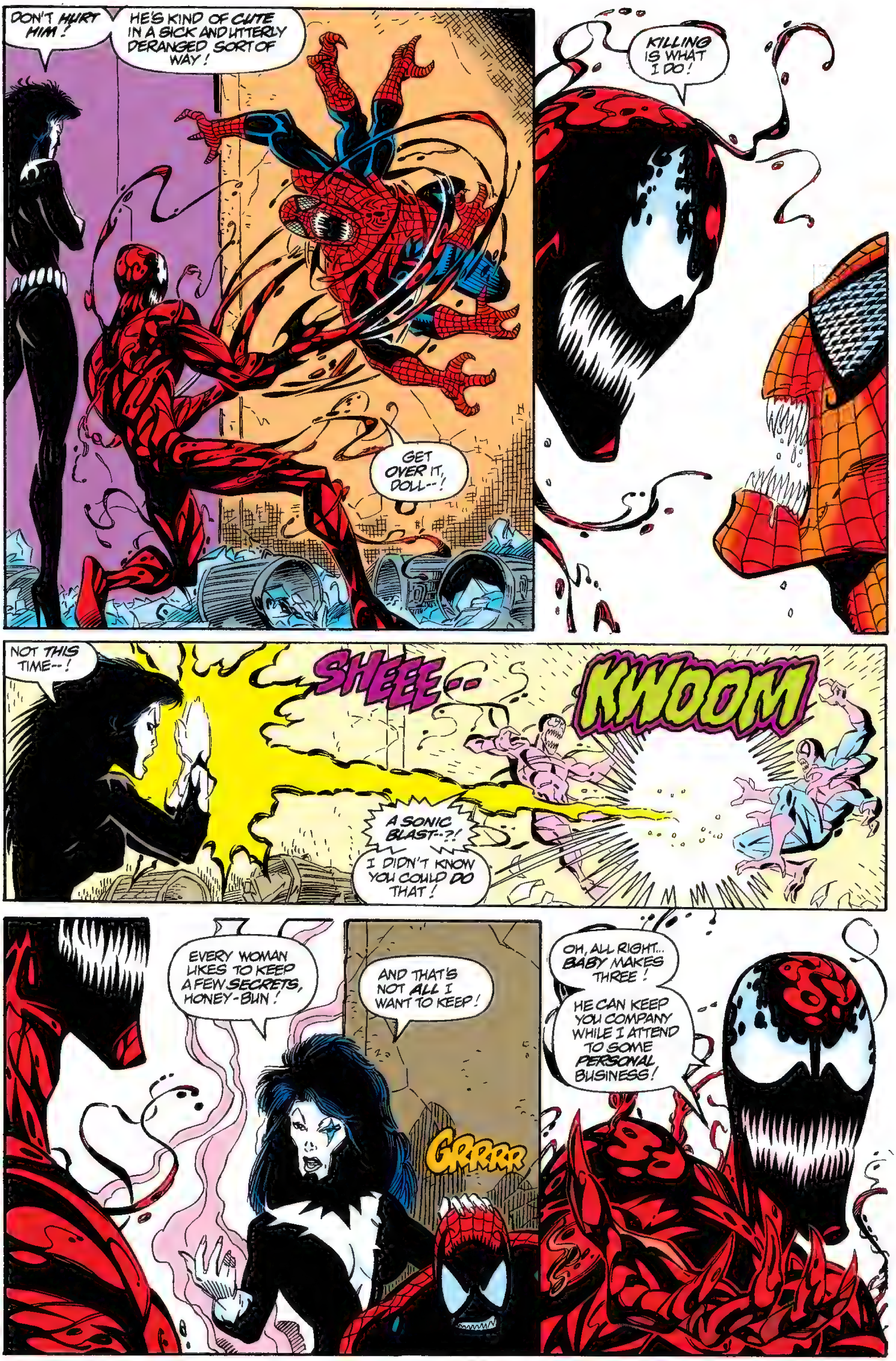

JUST THEN, AT THE HOME OF PETER AND MARY JANE PARKER...
I... I'M SORRY FOR THE WAY I ACTED AT THE SERVICE...
BUT I JUST WASN'T READY TO FACE LIZ AFTER ALL THAT'S HAPPENED!
SHE DOESN'T WANT US TO MOVE.
WHAT... DID YOU TELL HER?
I SAID WE WOULD HAVE TO TALK.
MARY JANE... I KNOW THIS ISN'T THE BEST TIMING... BUT YOUR SMOKING... THINK WHAT IT'S DOING TO YOUR HEALTH!
YES... WE DO!
WE JUST ATTENDED ONE MEMORIAL SERVICE!
PLEASE DON'T MAKE ME ATTEND YOURS!
DON'T CONFUSE THE ISSUES, PETER! HARRY MIGHT STILL BE ALIVE IF HE HAD TAKEN UP SMOKING... INSTEAD OF BEING THE GREEN GOBLIN!

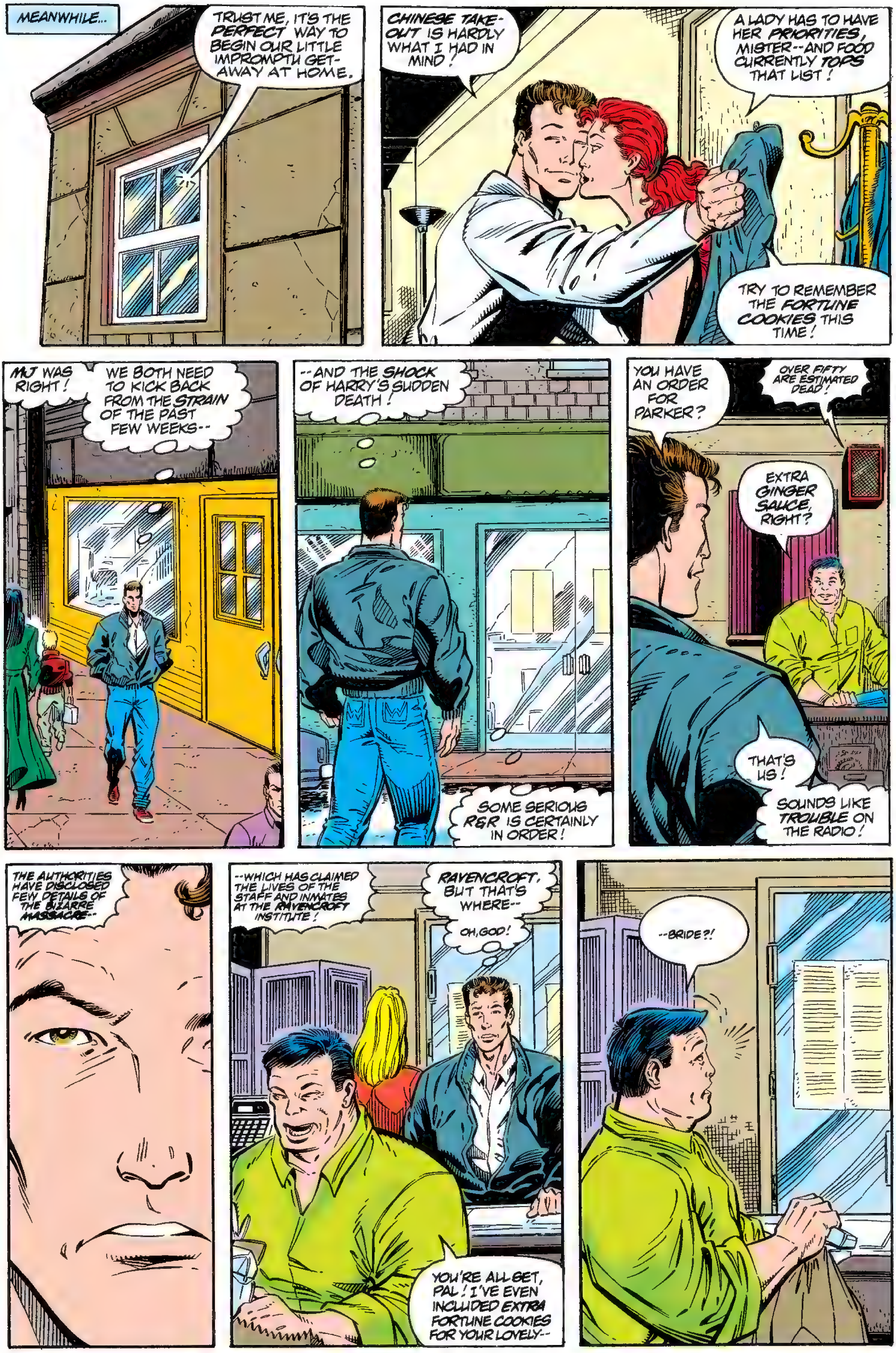

WHAT ABOUT YOUR HEALTH, PETER? HARRY WAS ONE OF YOUR OLDEST FRIENDS, BUT HE COULD HAVE EASILY KILLED US BOTH!
YOUR LIFE IS IN CONSTANT JEOPARDY!
WHAT DO YOU EXPECT ME TO SAY, MARY JANE?
YOU'RE 100% RIGHT!
BUT I CAN'T IGNORE THE GREAT POWER THAT I WAS GIVEN... AND, BELIEVE ME... I'VE TRIED!
I KNOW... AND YOUR SENSE OF RESPONSIBILITY IS ONE OF THE QUALITIES I MOST ADMIRE ABOUT YOU!
THEN, WHAT SHOULD I DO--?!
TAKE A BREAK! STOP BEING SPIDER-MAN FOR THE NEXT WEEK OR TWO!
WE BOTH NEED A CHANCE TO SLOW DOWN... AND CHILL OUT FROM THE CONSTANT STRESS!
ALL RIGHT... IF THAT'S ALL YOU WANT... I... I'LL TRY!
OH, PETER... THANK YOU... I...
I LOVE YOU SO MUCH!

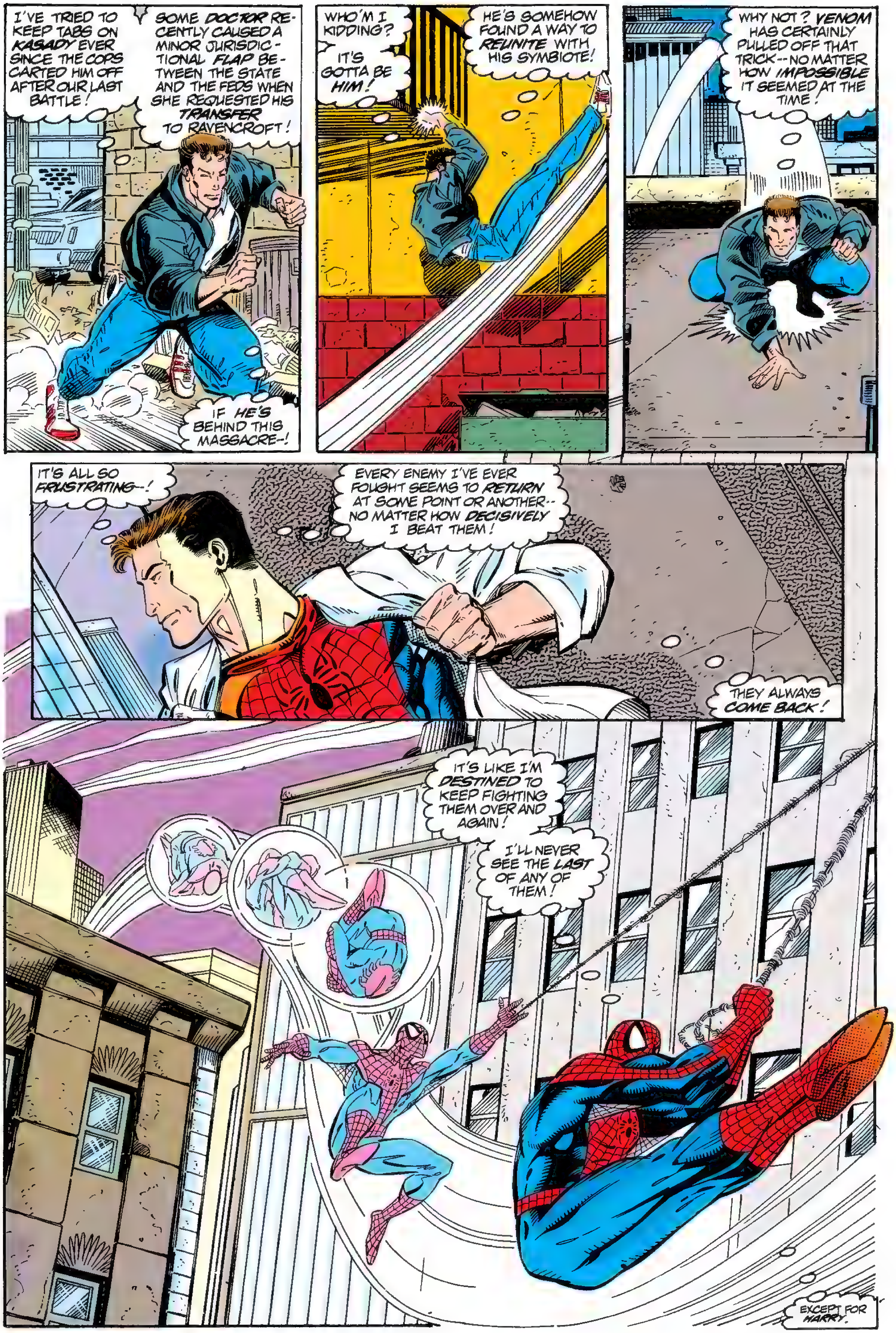

SOMEWHERE ACROSS TOWN...
♫ HE FLOATS ♪ THROUGH THE AIR WITH GREATEST OF EASE! THE DARING YOUNG MAN, AND HIS MOST SEXY ♪ SQUEEZE! ♫
WHAT WAS A SWEET THING LIKE YOU DOING IN A PLACE LIKE RAVENCROFT?
IT WAS A BUM RAP, CARNY MY LOVE!
I WAS ENJOYING A LITTLE HARMLESS MASS MURDER WHEN I RAN INTO THIS REALLY WEIRD DUDE WHO--QUITE LITERALLY--BLEW MY MIND!
THE DOCS WERE TRYING TO GLUE IT ALL BACK TOGETHER... BUT THEY SEEMED TO BE MISSING A FEW NECESSARY PIECES!
TOO TRUE!
GOSH, I HATE IT WHEN THAT HAPPENS!
SOUNDS LIKE YOU'VE GOT A SCORE TO SETTLE!
WHAT'S YOUR TALE OF WOE?
I USED TO BE YOUR STANDARD, SHY, UNDERACHIEVING SERIAL KILLER UNTIL SOME BUREAUCRATIC SCREW-UP STUFFED ME IN A HOLDING CELL WITH EDDIE BROCK!
EDDIE WAS MY KIND OF PEOPLE-- A REAL SICK-O-- BUT I WAS STILL PLANNING TO WASTE HIM WHEN--
"--AN UNEXPECTED VISITOR CAME CALLING!
"AN ALIEN SYMBIOTE WHICH LATCHED ON HIM TO RE-CREATE VENOM!
"UNFORTUNATELY FOR THEM, IN THEIR RUSH TO ESCAPE, THEY ACCIDENTLY LEFT A LITTLE SOUVENIR BEHIND!

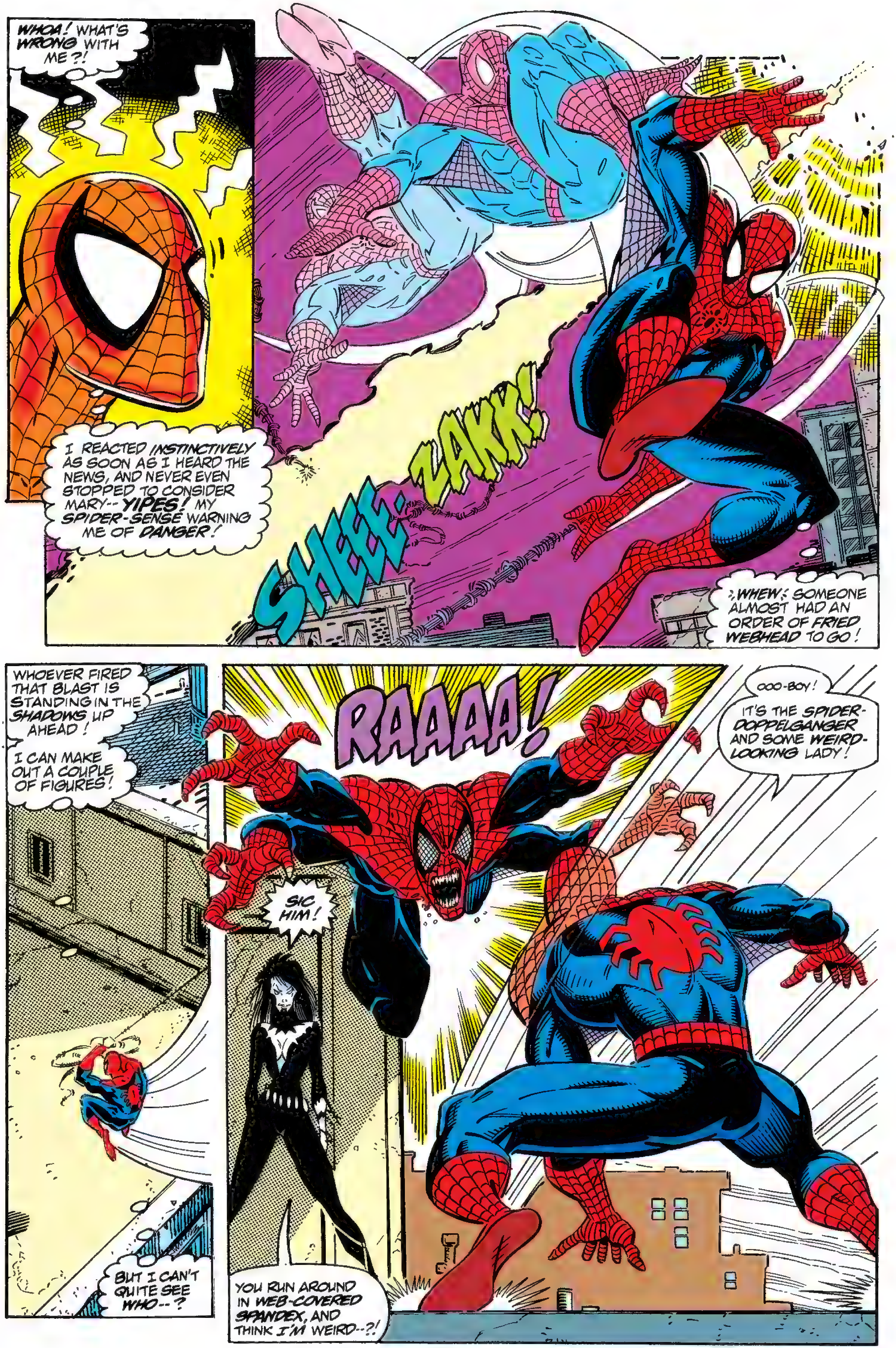

"A SMART COOKIE LIKE YOU CAN EASILY GUESS WHAT HAPPENED NEXT!
"AH, LIFE WOULD HAVE BEEN OH SO GRAND IF SPIDER-MAN AND VENOM HADN'T DECIDED TO TEMPORARILY PUT ASIDE THEIR OWN DIFFERENCES--
"--AND GANG UP AGAINST ME!
"I STILL MIGHT HAVE BEATEN THE BOTH OF THEM IF THAT WALL-CRAWLING CREEP HADN'T CHEATED!
"HE RESORTED TO SONICS WHICH CAUGHT EDDIE AND ME COMPLETELY BY SURPRISE--*
*AMAZING SPIDER-MAN#'S 361-363.--D.
-BUT, FAR AS I CAN TELL, MY SYMBIOTE MANAGED TO MUTATE MY METABOLISM THROUGH ONE OF THE CUTS I HAD GOTTEN DURING THE FIGHT!
I'M NOT SURE HOW, BUT I CAN NOW GENERATE A DEAD RINGER FOR THE SYMBIOTE.
THAT'S COOL. BUT THE BEST THING IS-- WE GET TO DO A REVENGE RIFF!
IT'LL BE A NEW EXPERIENCE FOR ME! YOU DON'T GET MANY RE-MATCHES WHEN YOU USUALLY KILL YOUR ENE-- HEY!
I KNEW YOU'D CHANGE MY LUCK, PRETTY LADY!
I DO BELIEVE THERE'S A SPIDER IN THAT ALLEY!
LET'S GO SQUASH IT!

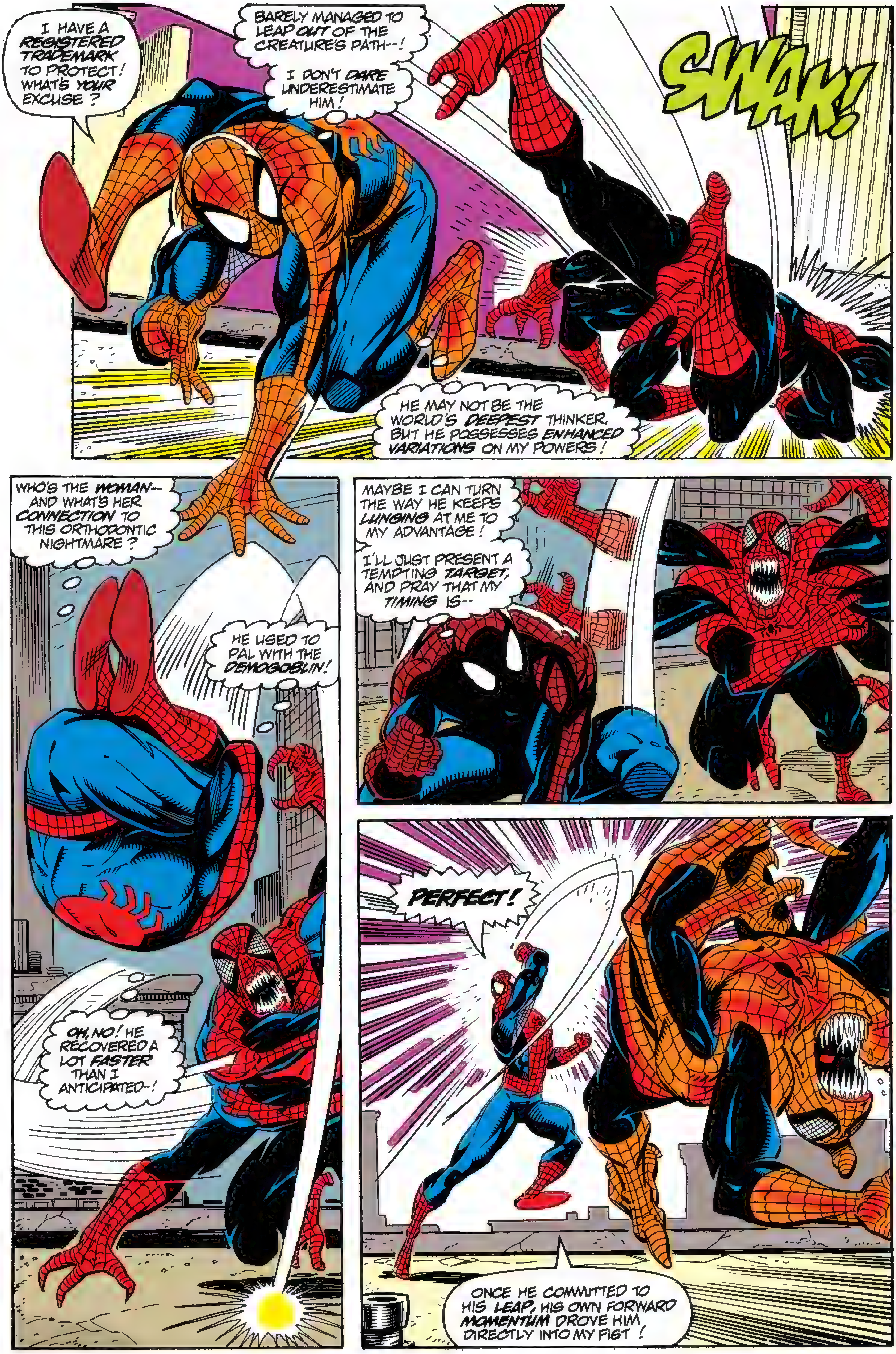

GRRRR!
--BUT THIS IS DEFINITELY NOT YOUR PARENTS' SPIDER-MAN!
THAT'S MY LINE--!
I'M SUPPOSED TO BE THE MONSTER HERE!
CORRECT ME IF I'M WRONG, HONEY-BUN--
PICKY! PICKY! IT WAS AN HONEST MISTAKE!
I MEAN ASIDE FROM ME, SPIDEY, AND VENOM--EXACTLY HOW MANY WEB-SWINGING STOOGES ARE THERE IN THE WORLD?!
RWAAA!
Y'KNOW, WHILE I WAS LOCKED IN THE VAULT, I HEARD SOME GOOFY RUMORS ABOUT A PACK OF EVIL DUPLICATES FROM OUTER SPACE, AND...
NAH! IT'S ALL TOO HOKEY FOR WORDS!
WRUUUF!

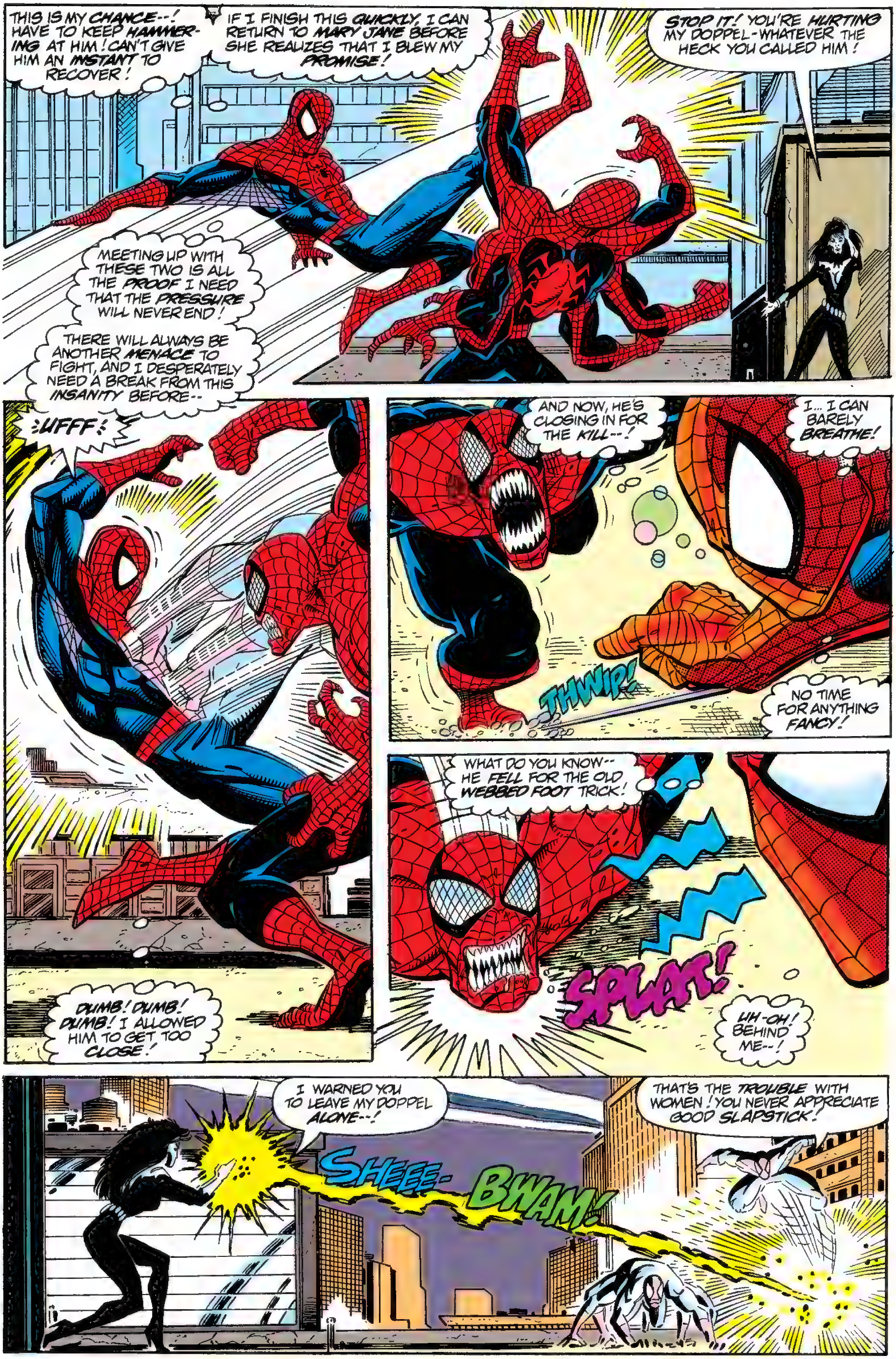

DON'T *HURT* HIM!
HE'S KIND OF *CUTE* IN A SICK AND UTTERLY DERANGED SORT OF WAY!
GET *OVER* IT, DOLL--!
KILLING IS WHAT I DO!
NOT *THIS* TIME--!
SHEEE--
KWOOM
A SONIC BLAST--?!
I DIDN'T KNOW YOU COULD *DO* THAT!
EVERY WOMAN LIKES TO KEEP A FEW *SECRETS*, HONEY-BUN!
AND THAT'S NOT *ALL* I WANT TO KEEP!
GRRRR
OH, ALL RIGHT.. *BABY* MAKES THREE!
HE CAN KEEP YOU COMPANY WHILE I ATTEND TO SOME *PERSONAL* BUSINESS!

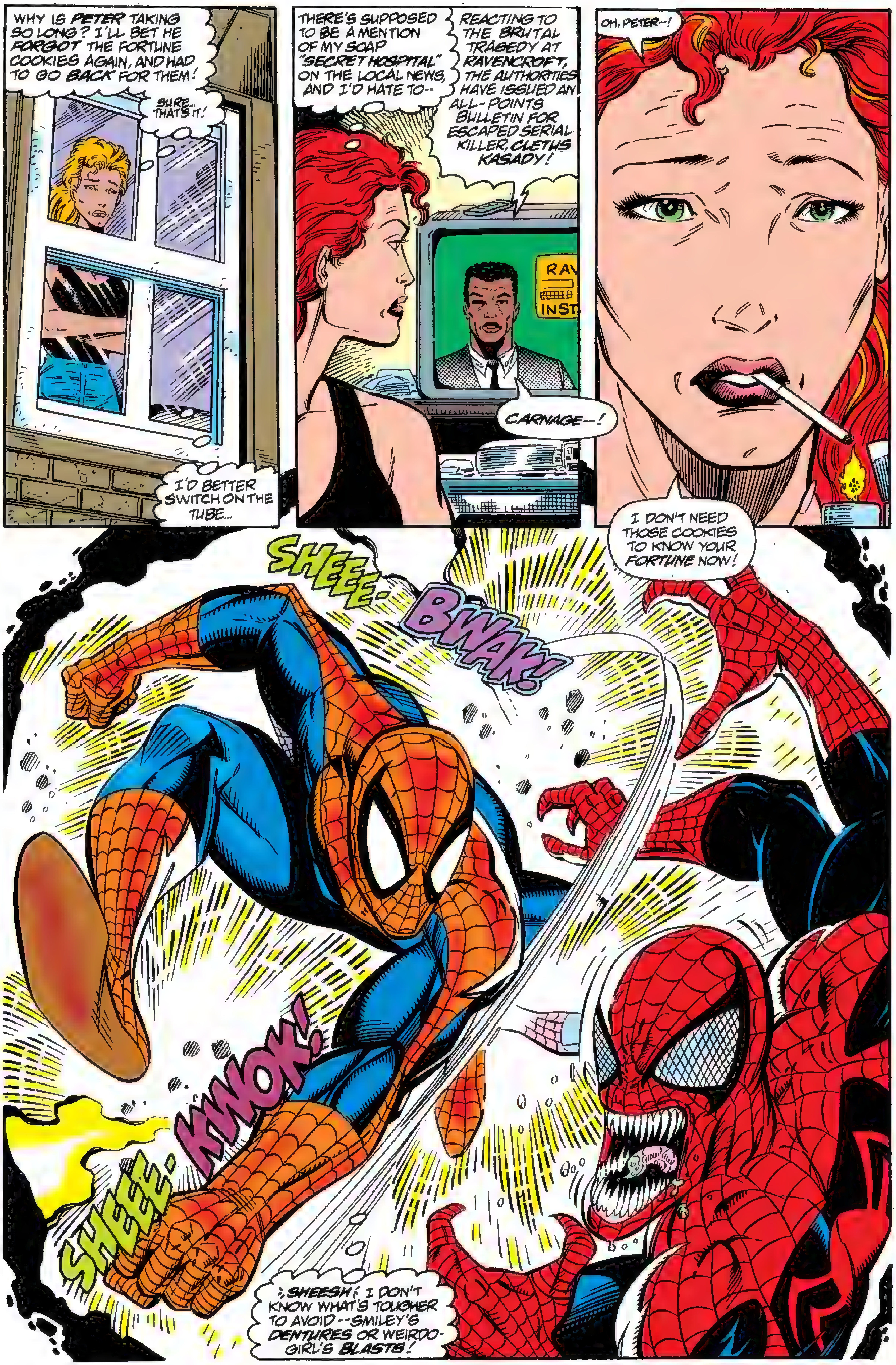

MEANWHILE...
TRUST ME, IT'S THE PERFECT WAY TO BEGIN OUR LITTLE IMPROMPTU GET-AWAY AT HOME.
CHINESE TAKE-OUT IS HARDLY WHAT I HAD IN MIND!
A LADY HAS TO HAVE HER PRIORITIES, MISTER--AND FOOD CURRENTLY TOPS THAT LIST!
TRY TO REMEMBER THE FORTUNE COOKIES THIS TIME!
MJ WAS RIGHT!
WE BOTH NEED TO KICK BACK FROM THE STRAIN OF THE PAST FEW WEEKS--
--AND THE SHOCK OF HARRY'S SUDDEN DEATH!
SOME SERIOUS R&R IS CERTAINLY IN ORDER!
YOU HAVE AN ORDER FOR PARKER?
OVER FIFTY ARE ESTIMATED DEAD!
EXTRA GINGER SAUCE, RIGHT?
THAT'S US!
SOUNDS LIKE TROUBLE ON THE RADIO!
THE AUTHORITIES HAVE DISCLOSED FEW DETAILS OF THE BIZARRE MASSACRE--
--WHICH HAS CLAIMED THE LIVES OF THE STAFF AND INMATES AT THE RAVENCROFT INSTITUTE!
RAVENCROFT, BUT THAT'S WHERE--
OH, GOD!
YOU'RE ALL SET, PAL! I'VE EVEN INCLUDED EXTRA FORTUNE COOKIES FOR YOUR LOVELY--
--BRIDE?!

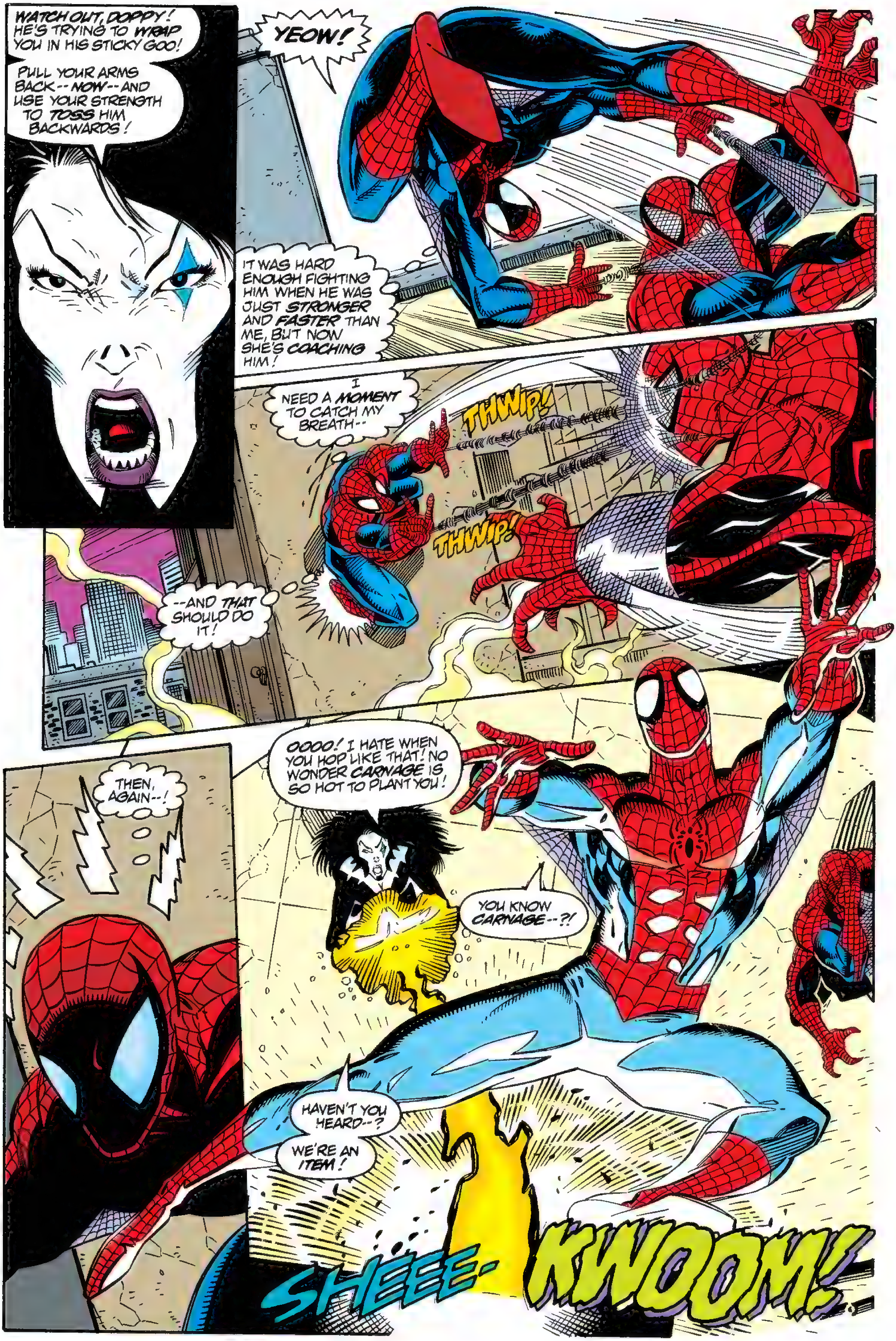

I'VE TRIED TO KEEP TABS ON KASADY EVER SINCE THE COPS CARTED HIM OFF AFTER OUR LAST BATTLE!
SOME DOCTOR RECENTLY CAUSED A MINOR JURISDICTIONAL FLAP BETWEEN THE STATE AND THE FEDS WHEN SHE REQUESTED HIS TRANSFER TO RAVENCROFT!
IF HE'S BEHIND THIS MASSACRE--!
WHO'M I KIDDING?
IT'S GOTTA BE HIM!
HE'S SOMEHOW FOUND A WAY TO REUNITE WITH HIS SYMBIOTE!
WHY NOT? VENOM HAS CERTAINLY PULLED OFF THAT TRICK--NO MATTER HOW IMPOSSIBLE IT SEEMED AT THE TIME!
IT'S ALL SO FRUSTRATING--!
EVERY ENEMY I'VE EVER FOUGHT SEEMS TO RETURN AT SOME POINT OR ANOTHER--NO MATTER HOW DECISIVELY I BEAT THEM!
THEY ALWAYS COME BACK!
IT'S LIKE I'M DESTINED TO KEEP FIGHTING THEM OVER AND AGAIN!
I'LL NEVER SEE THE LAST OF ANY OF THEM!
EXCEPT FOR HARRY.


WHOA! WHAT'S WRONG WITH ME?!
I REACTED INSTINCTIVELY AS SOON AS I HEARD THE NEWS, AND NEVER EVEN STOPPED TO CONSIDER MARY-- YIPES! MY SPIDER-SENSE WARNING ME OF DANGER!
SHEEE-ZAKK!
WHEW! SOMEONE ALMOST HAD AN ORDER OF FRIED WEBHEAD TO GO!
WHOEVER FIRED THAT BLAST IS STANDING IN THE SHADOWS UP AHEAD!
I CAN MAKE OUT A COUPLE OF FIGURES!
BUT I CAN'T QUITE SEE WHO--?
RAAAAA!
OOO-BOY!
IT'S THE SPIDER-DOPPELGANGER AND SOME WEIRD-LOOKING LADY!
SIC HIM!
YOU RUN AROUND IN WEB-COVERED SPANDEX, AND THINK I'M WEIRD--?!

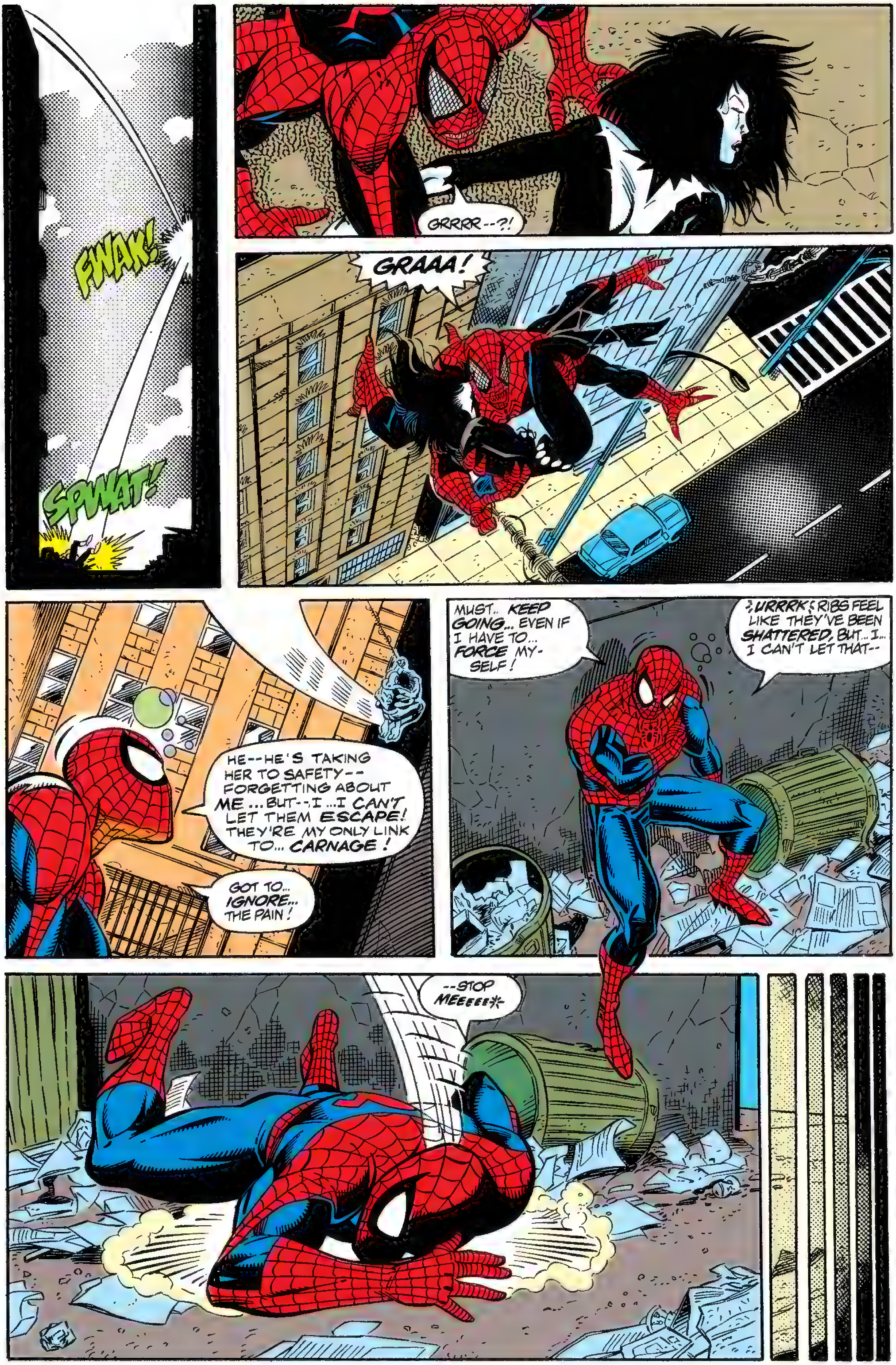

I HAVE A *REGISTERED TRADEMARK* TO PROTECT! WHAT'S *YOUR* EXCUSE?
BARELY MANAGED TO LEAP *OUT* OF THE CREATURE'S PATH--!
I DON'T *DARE* UNDERESTIMATE HIM!
SWAK!
HE MAY NOT BE THE WORLD'S *DEEPEST* THINKER, BUT HE POSSESSES *ENHANCED VARIATIONS* ON MY POWERS!
WHO'S THE *WOMAN*-- AND WHAT'S HER *CONNECTION* TO THIS ORTHODONTIC NIGHTMARE?
HE USED TO PAL WITH THE *DEMOGOBLIN*!
OH, NO! HE RECOVERED A LOT *FASTER* THAN I ANTICIPATED--!
MAYBE I CAN TURN THE WAY HE KEEPS *LUNGING* AT ME TO MY ADVANTAGE!
I'LL JUST PRESENT A TEMPTING *TARGET*, AND PRAY THAT MY *TIMING* IS--
PERFECT!
ONCE HE COMMITTED TO HIS *LEAP*, HIS OWN FORWARD *MOMENTUM* DROVE HIM DIRECTLY INTO MY FIST!

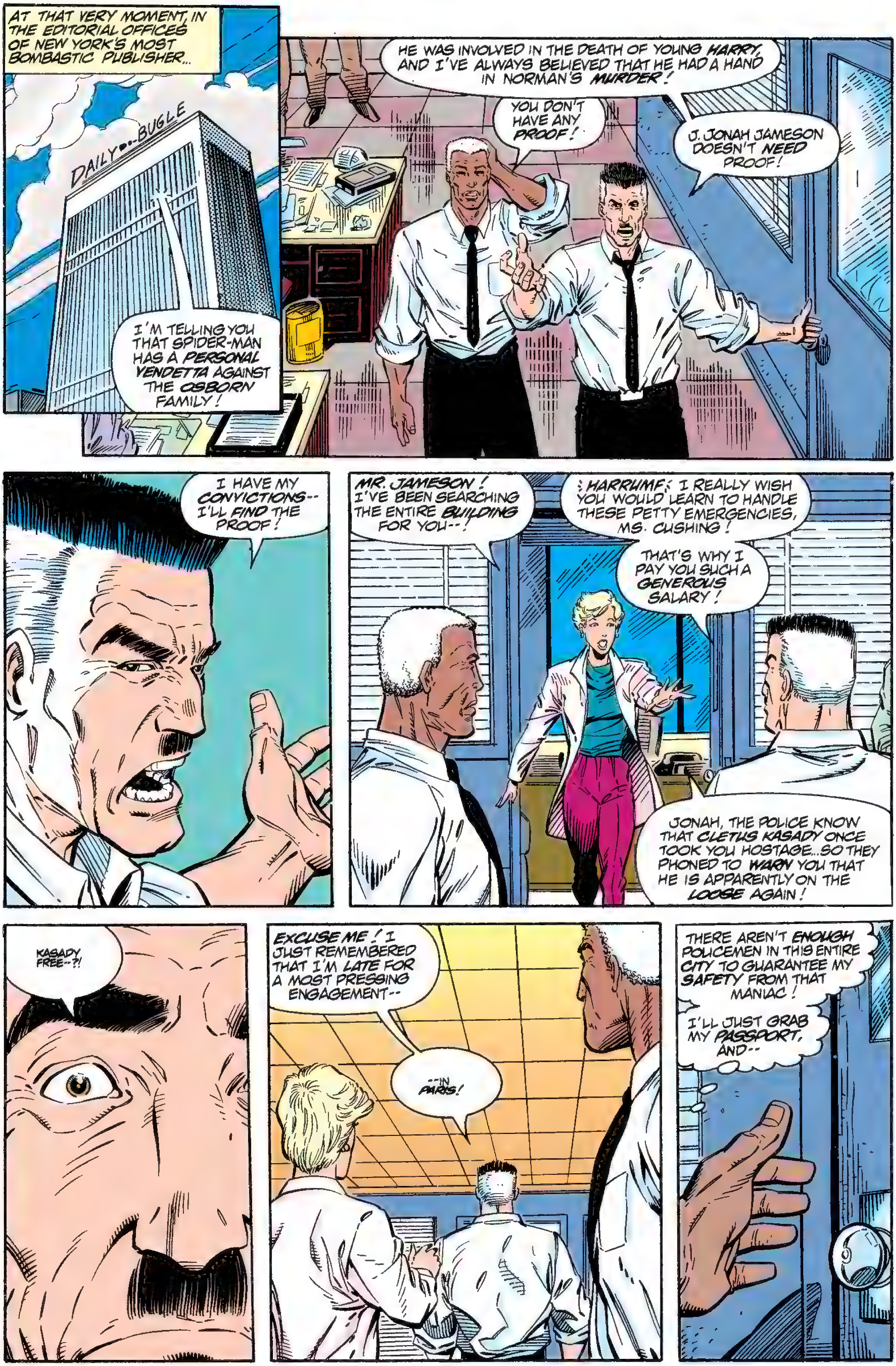

THIS IS MY CHANCE--! HAVE TO KEEP HAMMERING AT HIM! CAN'T GIVE HIM AN INSTANT TO RECOVER!
IF I FINISH THIS QUICKLY, I CAN RETURN TO MARY JANE BEFORE SHE REALIZES THAT I BLEW MY PROMISE!
STOP IT! YOU'RE HURTING MY DOPPEL-WHATEVER THE HECK YOU CALLED HIM!
MEETING UP WITH THESE TWO IS ALL THE PROOF I NEED THAT THE PRESSURE WILL NEVER END!
THERE WILL ALWAYS BE ANOTHER MENACE TO FIGHT, AND I DESPERATELY NEED A BREAK FROM THIS INSANITY BEFORE--
UFFF!
DUMB! DUMB! DUMB! I ALLOWED HIM TO GET TOO CLOSE!
AND NOW, HE'S CLOSING IN FOR THE KILL--!
I... I CAN BARELY BREATHE!
THWIP!
NO TIME FOR ANYTHING FANCY!
WHAT DO YOU KNOW-- HE FELL FOR THE OLD WEBBED FOOT TRICK!
SPLAT!
UH-OH! BEHIND ME--!
I WARNED YOU TO LEAVE MY DOPPEL ALONE--!
SHEEE-BWAM!
THAT'S THE TROUBLE WITH WOMEN! YOU NEVER APPRECIATE GOOD SLAPSTICK!

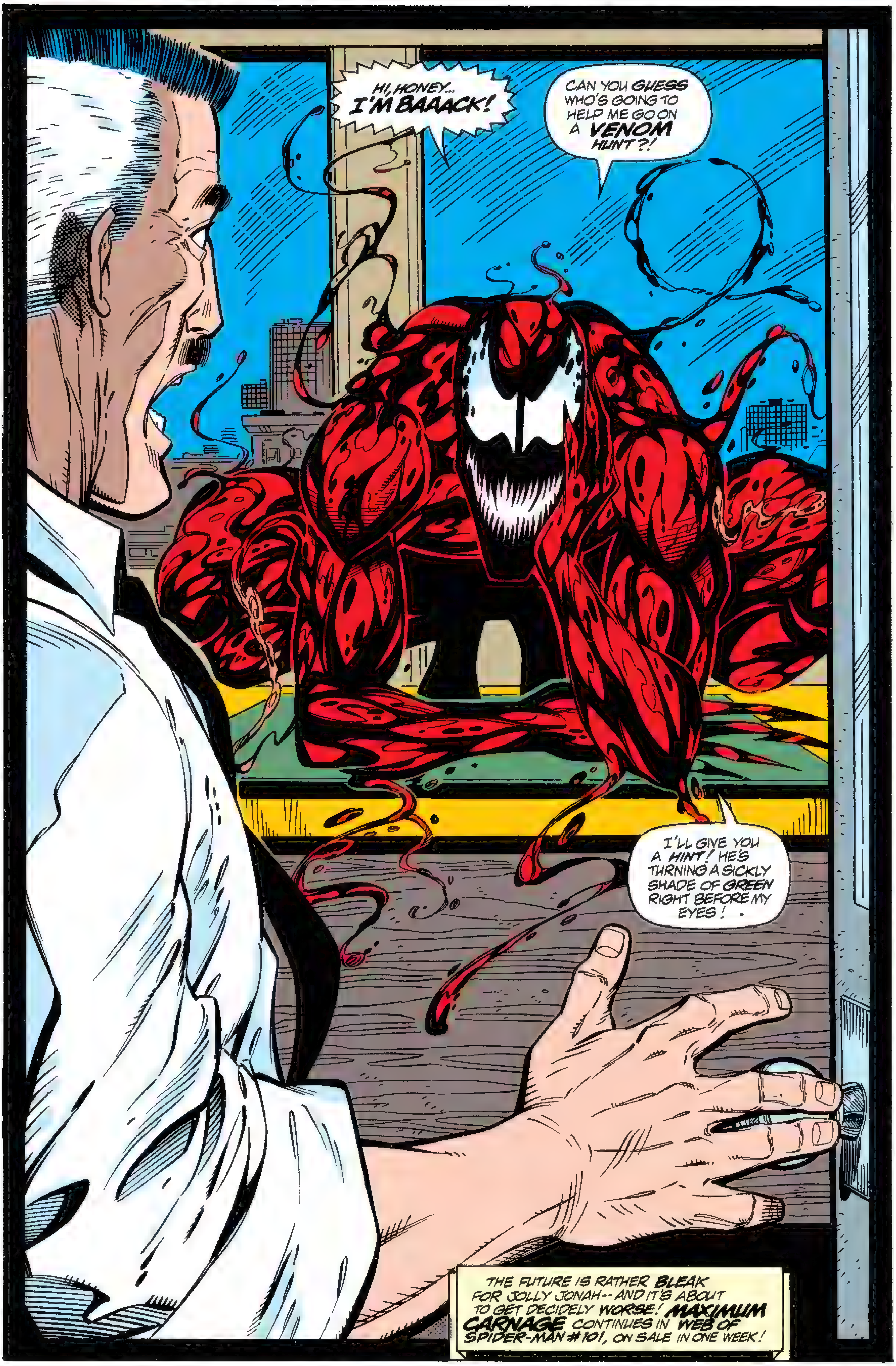

WHY IS PETER TAKING SO LONG? I'LL BET HE FORGOT THE FORTUNE COOKIES AGAIN, AND HAD TO GO BACK FOR THEM!
SURE... THAT'S IT!
I'D BETTER SWITCH ON THE TUBE...
THERE'S SUPPOSED TO BE A MENTION OF MY SOAP "SECRET HOSPITAL" ON THE LOCAL NEWS, AND I'D HATE TO--
REACTING TO THE BRUTAL TRAGEDY AT RAVENCROFT, THE AUTHORITIES HAVE ISSUED AN ALL-POINTS BULLETIN FOR ESCAPED SERIAL-KILLER, CLETUS KASADY!
RAV
INST
CARNAGE--!
OH, PETER--!
I DON'T NEED THOSE COOKIES TO KNOW YOUR FORTUNE NOW!
SHEEE-
BWAK!
SHEEE-
KWOK!
:SHEESH: I DON'T KNOW WHAT'S TOUGHER TO AVOID--SMILEY'S DENTURES OR WEIRDO-GIRL'S BLASTS!


WATCH OUT, DOPPY! HE'S TRYING TO WRAP YOU IN HIS STICKY GOO!
PULL YOUR ARMS BACK--NOW--AND USE YOUR STRENGTH TO TOSS HIM BACKWARDS!
YEOW!
IT WAS HARD ENOUGH FIGHTING HIM WHEN HE WAS JUST STRONGER AND FASTER THAN ME, BUT NOW SHE'S COACHING HIM!
I NEED A MOMENT TO CATCH MY BREATH--
THWIP!
THWIP!
--AND THAT SHOULD DO IT!
THEN, AGAIN--!
OOOO! I HATE WHEN YOU HOP LIKE THAT! NO WONDER CARNAGE IS SO HOT TO PLANT YOU!
YOU KNOW CARNAGE--?!
HAVEN'T YOU HEARD--?
WE'RE AN ITEM!
SHEEE-KWOOM!

IF THAT'S TRUE, I'M IN EVEN WORSE SHAPE THAN I THOUGHT!
THERE'S NO WAY I COULD TAKE ON ALL THREE OF THEM!
I'VE GOT TO PULL OUT THE STOPS BEFORE HER BOYFRIEND MAKES THE SCENE!
LIGHTS OUT, LOLA--!
I'D HATE TO BE ACCUSED OF HARASSING WOMEN, BUT THIS SHOULDN'T HURT TOO MUCH!
SPIDER-SENSE SUDDENLY GOING WILD--!
I LEFT MYSELF WIDE OPEN TO THE DOBBLE-GANGER, AND CAN'T--
ARGGK
KWOMM!


FWAK!
SPWAT!
GRRRR--?!
GRAAA!
HE--HE'S TAKING HER TO SAFETY-- FORGETTING ABOUT ME ... BUT--I ...I CAN'T LET THEM ESCAPE! THEY'RE MY ONLY LINK TO... CARNAGE!
GOT TO... IGNORE... THE PAIN!
MUST.. KEEP GOING... EVEN IF I HAVE TO... FORCE MY-SELF!
¿URRRK¿ RIBS FEEL LIKE THEY'VE BEEN SHATTERED, BUT... I... I CAN'T LET THAT--
--STOP MEEEEE*

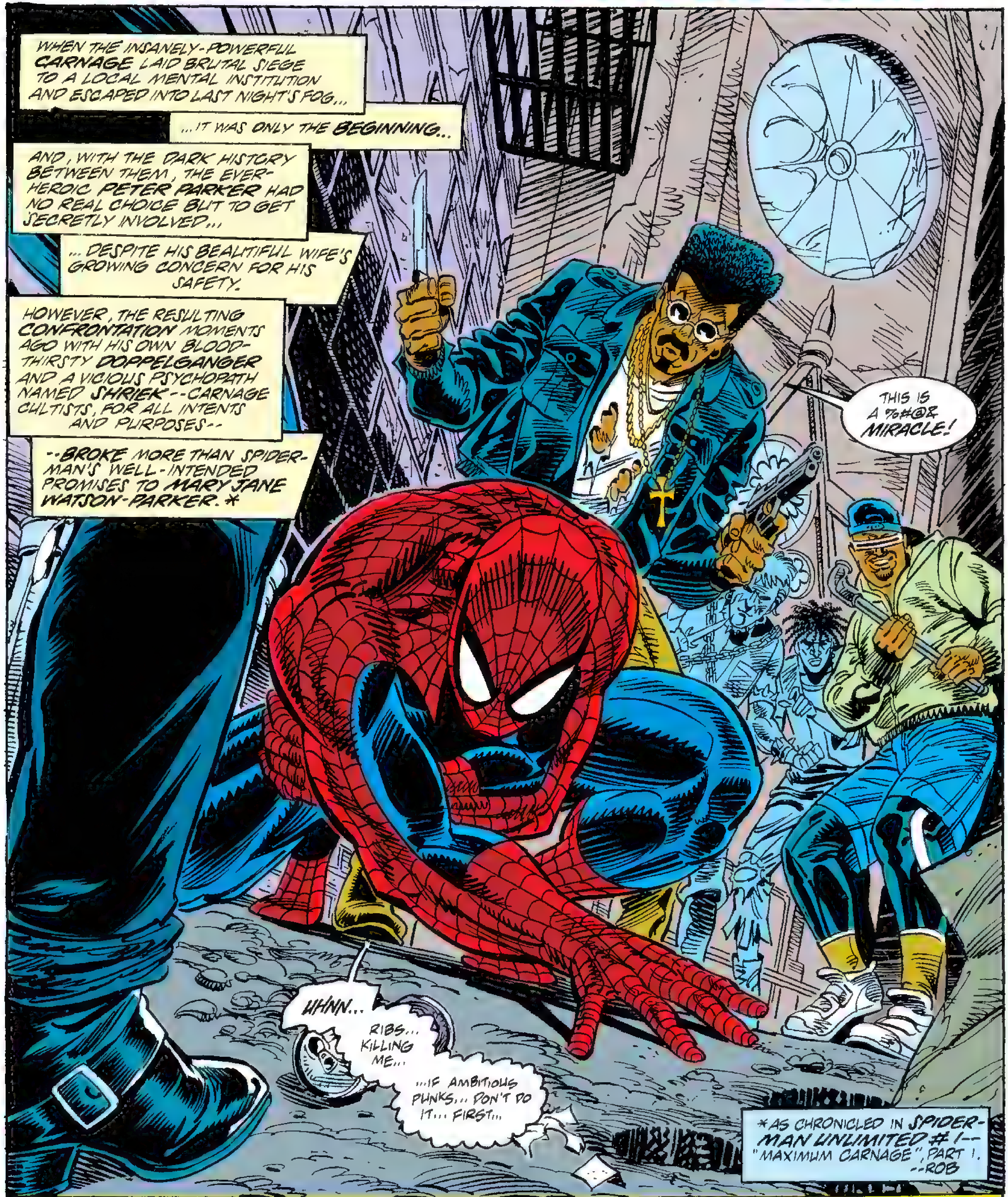

AT THAT VERY MOMENT, IN THE EDITORIAL OFFICES OF NEW YORK'S MOST BOMBASTIC PUBLISHER...
DAILY BUGLE
I'M TELLING YOU THAT SPIDER-MAN HAS A *PERSONAL VENDETTA* AGAINST THE *OSBORN* FAMILY!
HE WAS INVOLVED IN THE DEATH OF YOUNG *HARRY*, AND I'VE ALWAYS BELIEVED THAT HE HAD A HAND IN NORMAN'S *MURDER*!
YOU DON'T HAVE ANY *PROOF*!
J. JONAH JAMESON DOESN'T *NEED* PROOF!
I HAVE MY *CONVICTIONS*-- I'LL *FIND* THE PROOF!
MR. JAMESON! I'VE BEEN SEARCHING THE ENTIRE *BUILDING* FOR YOU--!
HARRUMF! I REALLY WISH YOU WOULD LEARN TO HANDLE THESE PETTY EMERGENCIES, MS. CUSHING!
THAT'S WHY I PAY YOU SUCH A *GENEROUS* SALARY!
JONAH, THE POLICE KNOW THAT *CLETUS KASADY* ONCE TOOK YOU HOSTAGE...SO THEY PHONED TO *WARN* YOU THAT HE IS APPARENTLY ON THE *LOOSE* AGAIN!
KASADY FREE--?!
EXCUSE ME! I JUST REMEMBERED THAT I'M *LATE* FOR A MOST PRESSING ENGAGEMENT--
--IN *PARIS*!
THERE AREN'T *ENOUGH* POLICEMEN IN THIS ENTIRE *CITY* TO GUARANTEE MY *SAFETY* FROM THAT MANIAC!
I'LL JUST GRAB MY *PASSPORT*, AND--


HI, HONEY... I'M BAAACK!
CAN YOU GUESS WHO'S GOING TO HELP ME GO ON A VENOM HUNT?!
I'LL GIVE YOU A HINT! HE'S TURNING A SICKLY SHADE OF GREEN RIGHT BEFORE MY EYES!
THE FUTURE IS RATHER BLEAK FOR JOLLY JONAH-- AND IT'S ABOUT TO GET DECIDEDLY WORSE! MAXIMUM CARNAGE CONTINUES IN WEB OF SPIDER-MAN #101, ON SALE IN ONE WEEK!

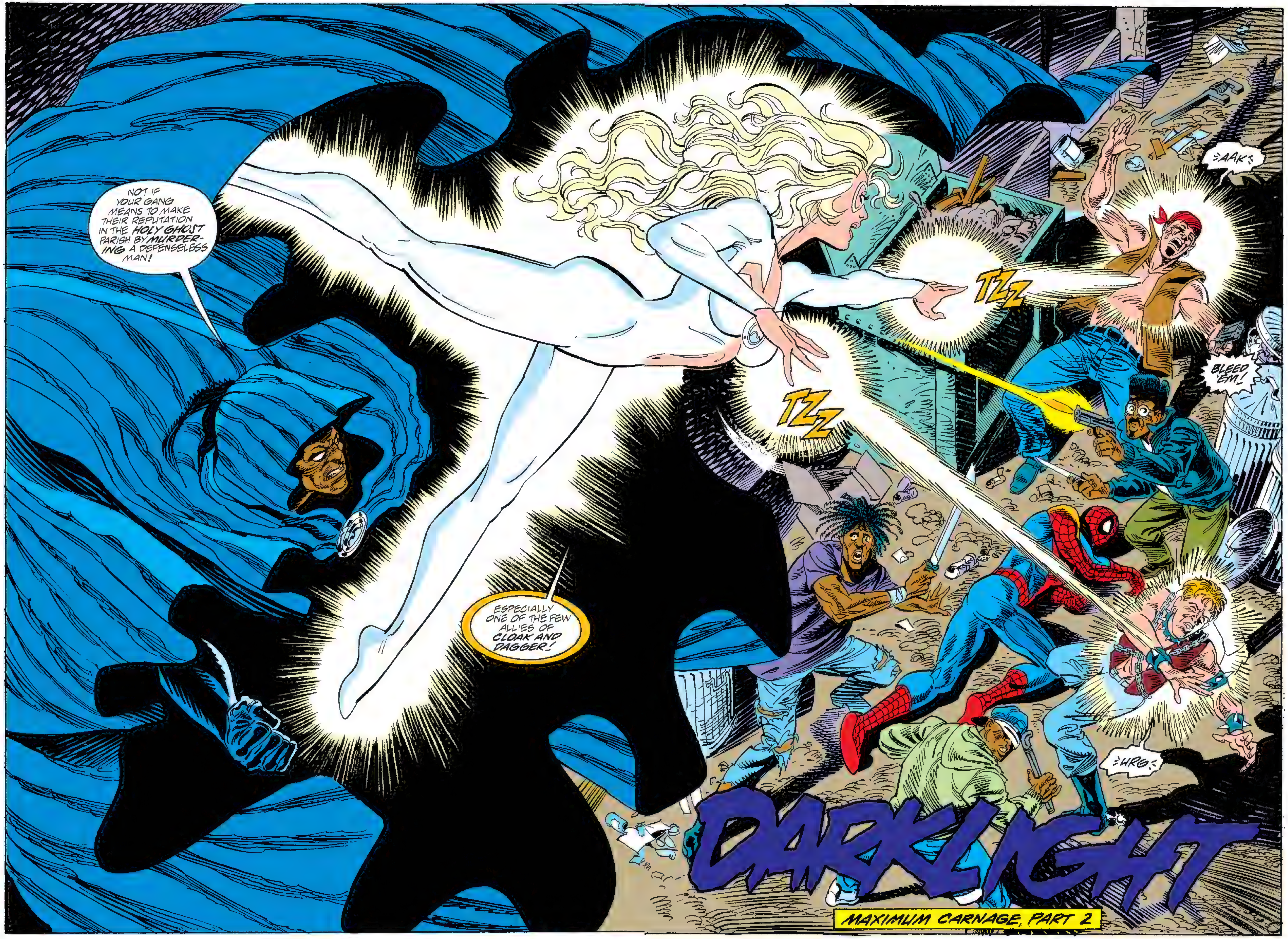
MARVEL COMICS
MAXIMUM CARNAGE
PART 2 OF 14
WEB OF SPIDER-MAN
© 1993 MARVEL ENT GROUP INC
$1.25 US
$1.60 CAN
101
JUN
UK 95p
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
AVENGERS ASSEMBLE!
30TH
30 YEARS
1963-1993

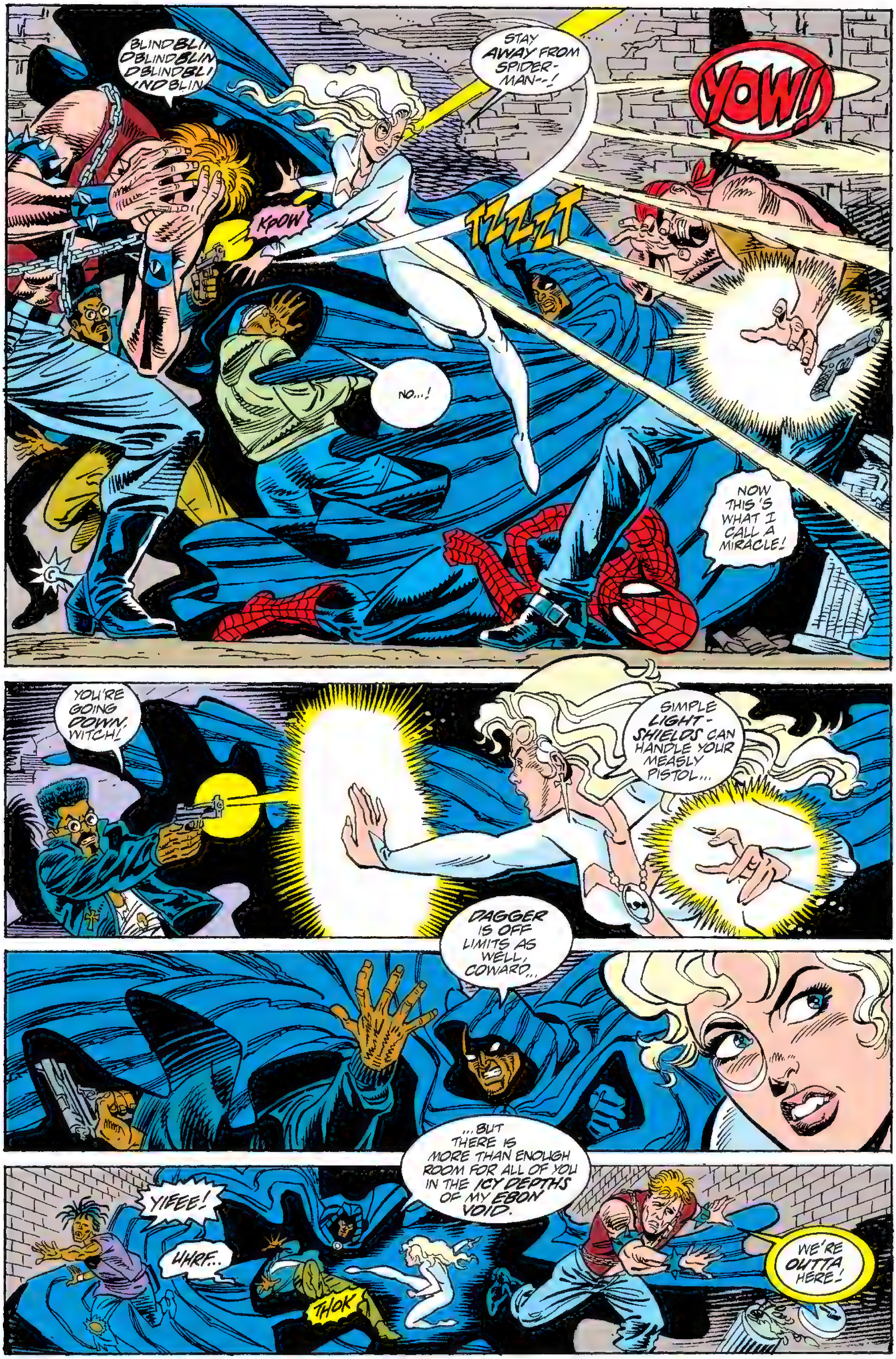
*BITTEN BY A RADIOACTIVE SPIDER, STUDENT **PETER PARKER** GAINED THE PROPORTIONATE STRENGTH AND AGILITY OF AN ARACHNID! ARMED WITH HIS WONDROUS WEB-SHOOTERS, THE RELUCTANT SUPER HERO STRUGGLES WITH SINISTER SUPER-VILLAINS, MAKING ENDS MEET, AND MAINTAINING SOME SEMBLANCE OF A NORMAL LIFE!*

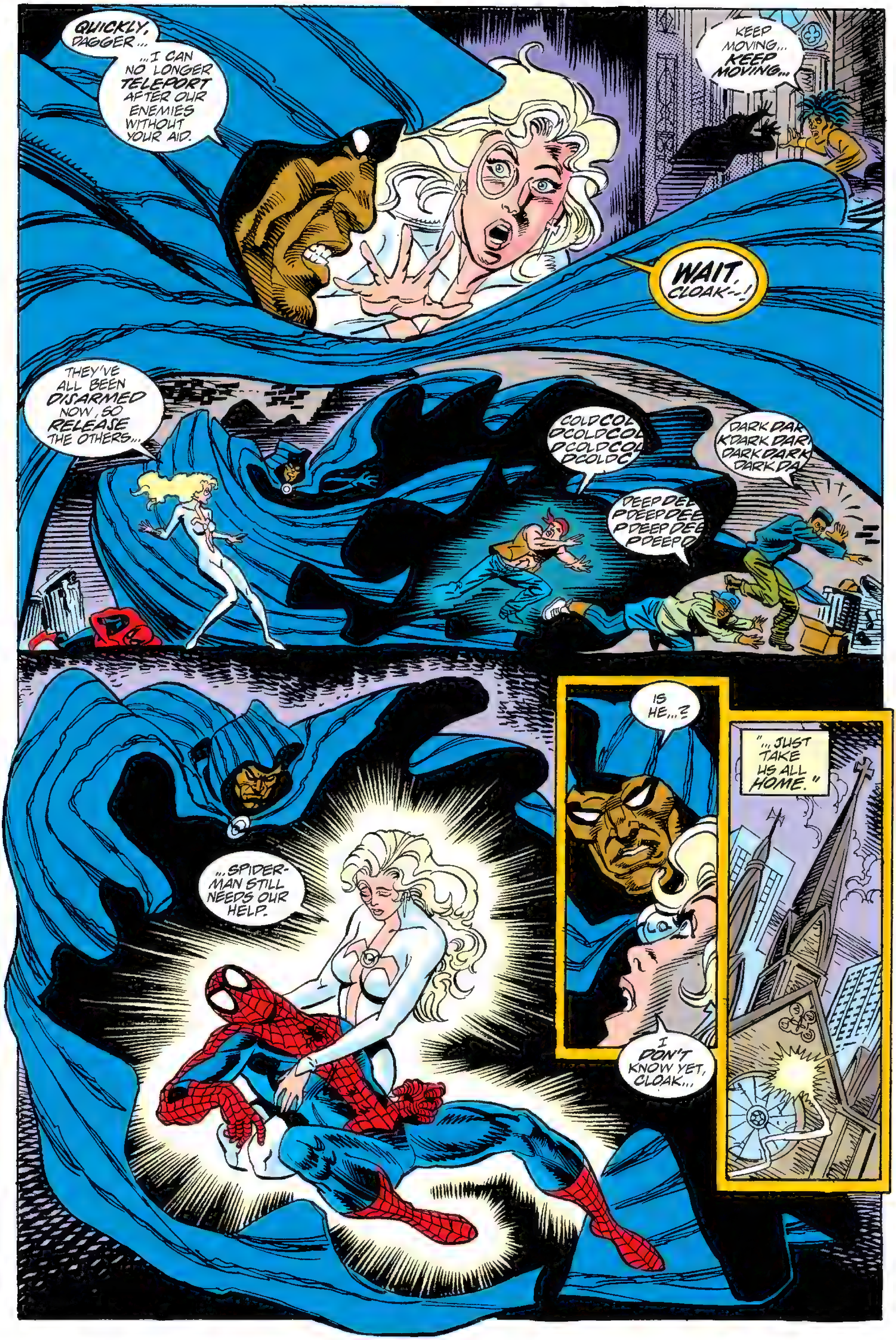
Stan Lee PRESENTS: WEB OF SPIDER-MAN™

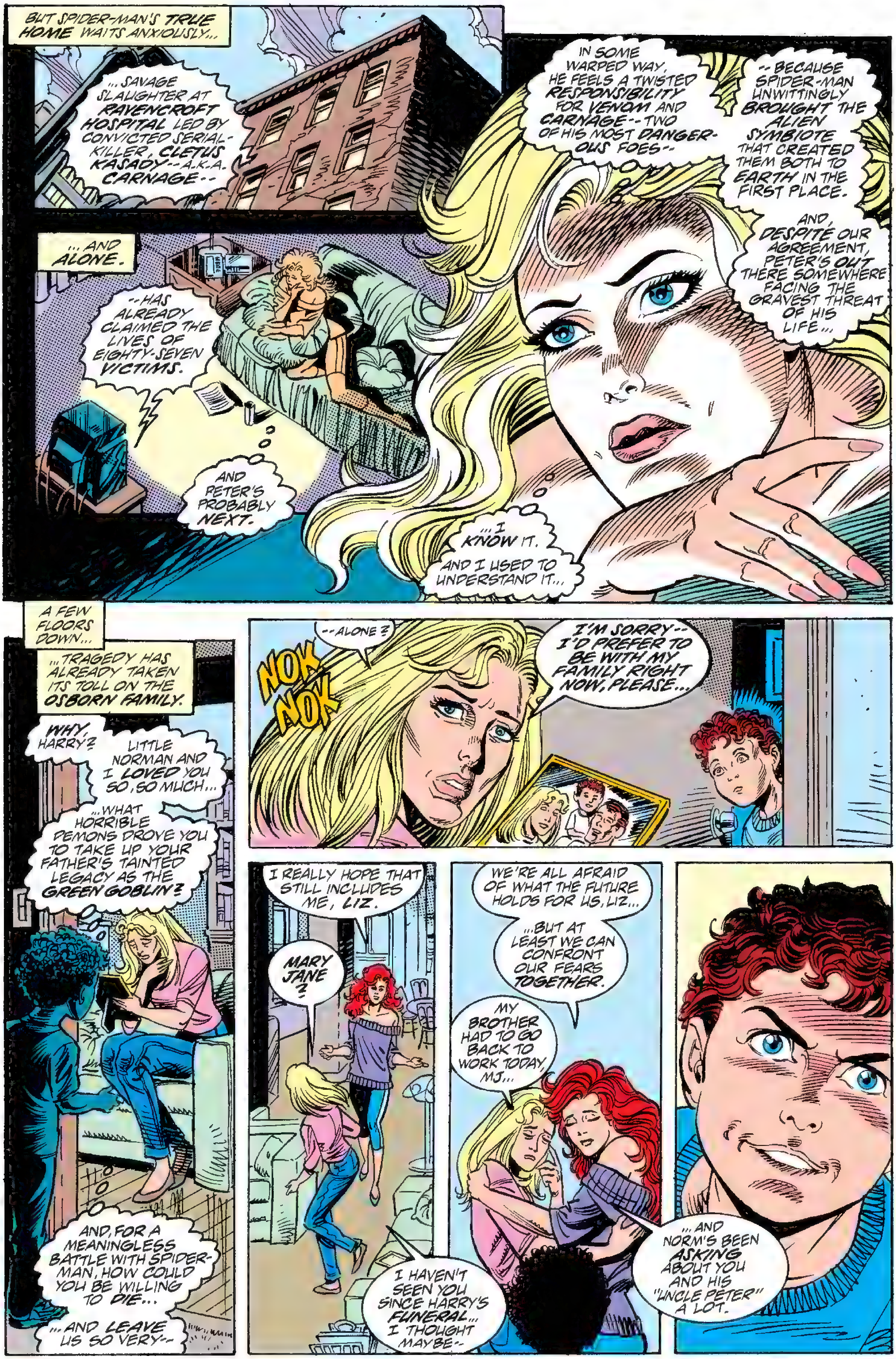

WHEN THE INSANELY-POWERFUL CARNAGE LAID BRUTAL SIEGE TO A LOCAL MENTAL INSTITUTION AND ESCAPED INTO LAST NIGHT'S FOG...
...IT WAS ONLY THE BEGINNING...
AND, WITH THE DARK HISTORY BETWEEN THEM, THE EVER-HEROIC PETER PARKER HAD NO REAL CHOICE BUT TO GET SECRETLY INVOLVED...
...DESPITE HIS BEAUTIFUL WIFE'S GROWING CONCERN FOR HIS SAFETY.
HOWEVER, THE RESULTING CONFRONTATION MOMENTS AGO WITH HIS OWN BLOOD-THIRSTY DOPPELGANGER AND A VICIOUS PSYCHOPATH NAMED SHRIEK--CARNAGE CULTISTS, FOR ALL INTENTS AND PURPOSES--
--BROKE MORE THAN SPIDER-MAN'S WELL-INTENDED PROMISES TO MARY JANE WATSON-PARKER.*
THIS IS A %#@& MIRACLE!
UHNN...
RIBS... KILLING ME...
...IF AMBITIOUS PUNKS... DON'T DO IT... FIRST...
*AS CHRONICLED IN SPIDER-MAN UNLIMITED #1--"MAXIMUM CARNAGE", PART 1. --ROB

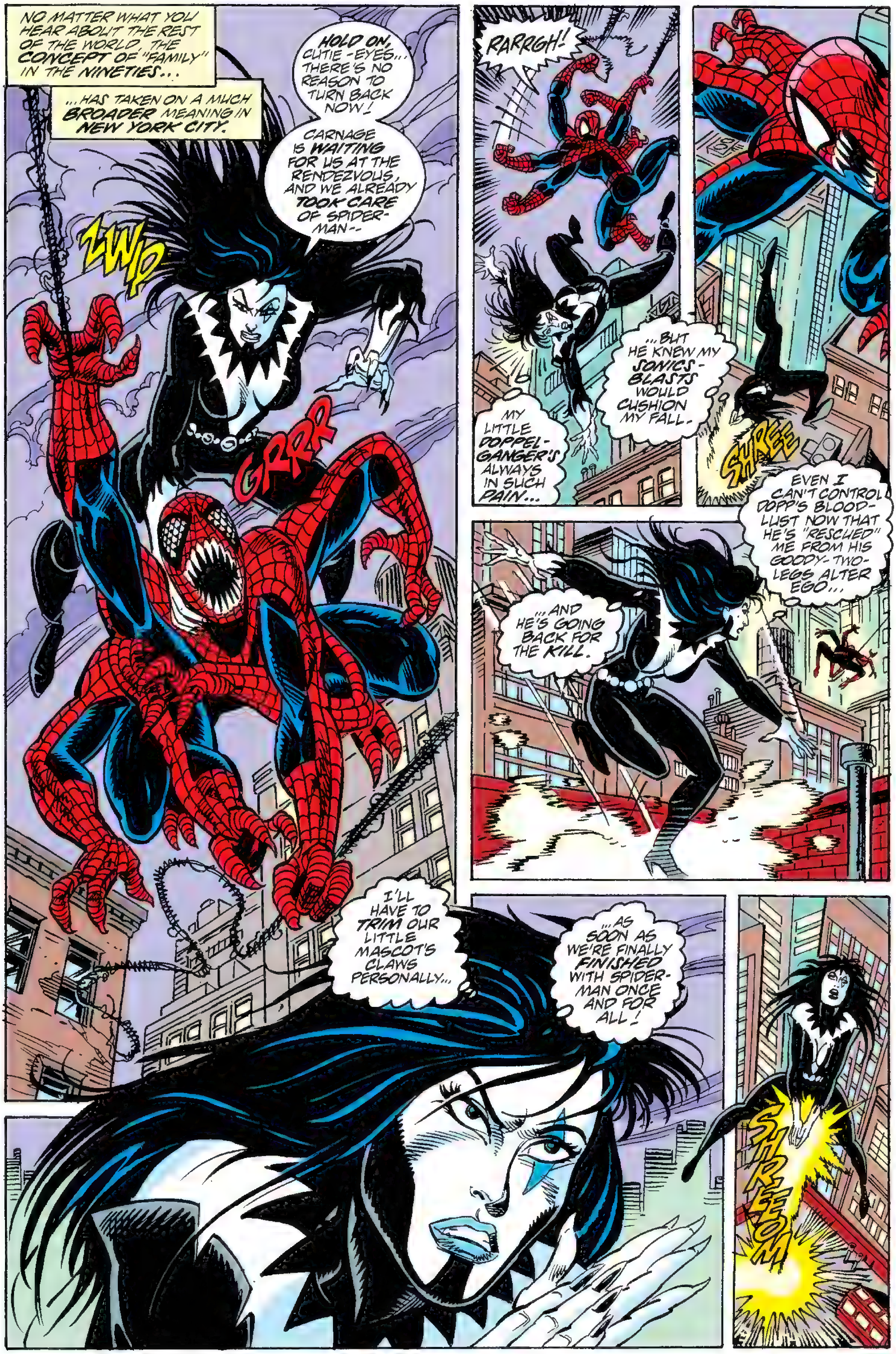
TERRY KAVANAGH · writer **ALEX SAVIUK** · penciler **DON HUDSON** · inker **STEVE DUTRO** · letterer
BOB SHAREN · colorist **ROB TOKAR** · editor **DANNY FINGEROTH** · group editor **TOM DEFALCO** · editor in chief

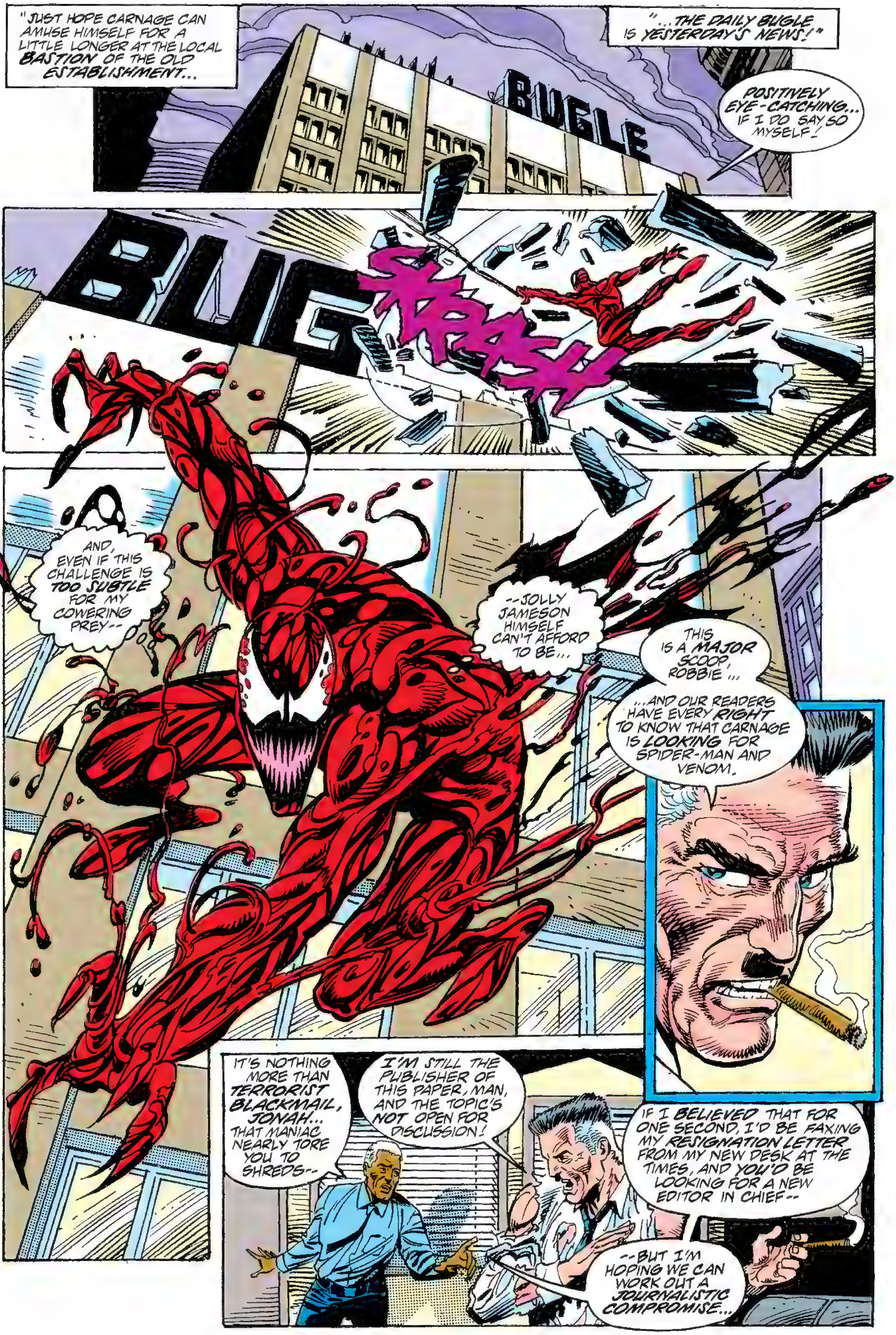

NOT IF YOUR GANG MEANS TO MAKE THEIR REPUTATION IN THE HOLY GHOST PARISH BY MURDERING A DEFENSELESS MAN!
ESPECIALLY ONE OF THE FEW ALLIES OF CLOAK AND DAGGER!
TZZ
TZZ
AAK!
BLEED 'EM!
URG
DARKLIGHT
MAXIMUM CARNAGE, PART 2


BLINDBLI DBLINDBLIN DBLINDBLI NDBLIN
STAY AWAY FROM SPIDER-MAN--!
YOW!
KPOW
TZZZZT
NO...!
NOW THIS'S WHAT I CALL A MIRACLE!
YOU'RE GOING DOWN, WITCH!
SIMPLE LIGHT-SHIELDS CAN HANDLE YOUR MEASLY PISTOL...
DAGGER IS OFF LIMITS AS WELL, COWARD...
...BUT THERE IS MORE THAN ENOUGH ROOM FOR ALL OF YOU IN THE ICY DEPTHS OF MY EBON VOID.
YIEEE!
UHRF...
THOK
WE'RE OUTTA HERE!

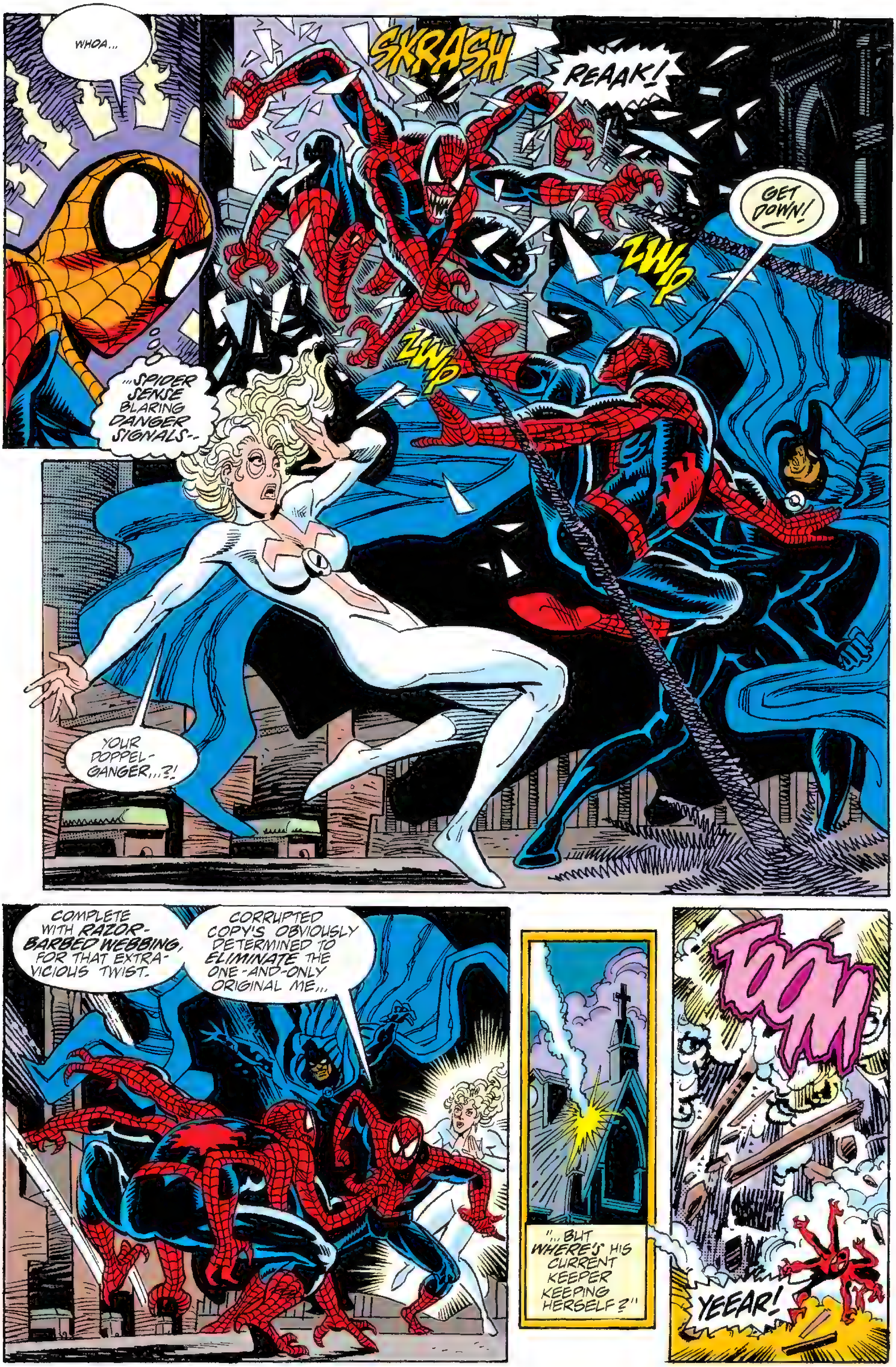

QUICKLY, DAGGER... ...I CAN NO LONGER TELEPORT AFTER OUR ENEMIES WITHOUT YOUR AID.
KEEP MOVING... KEEP MOVING...
WAIT, CLOAK--!
THEY'VE ALL BEEN DISARMED NOW, SO RELEASE THE OTHERS...
COLDCOL DCOLDCOL DCOLDCOL DCOLDC
DARK DAR KDARK DAR DARK DARK DARK DA
DEEP DEE PDEEP DEE PDEEP DEE PDEEP D
...SPIDER-MAN STILL NEEDS OUR HELP.
IS HE...?
I DON'T KNOW YET, CLOAK...
"...JUST TAKE US ALL HOME."

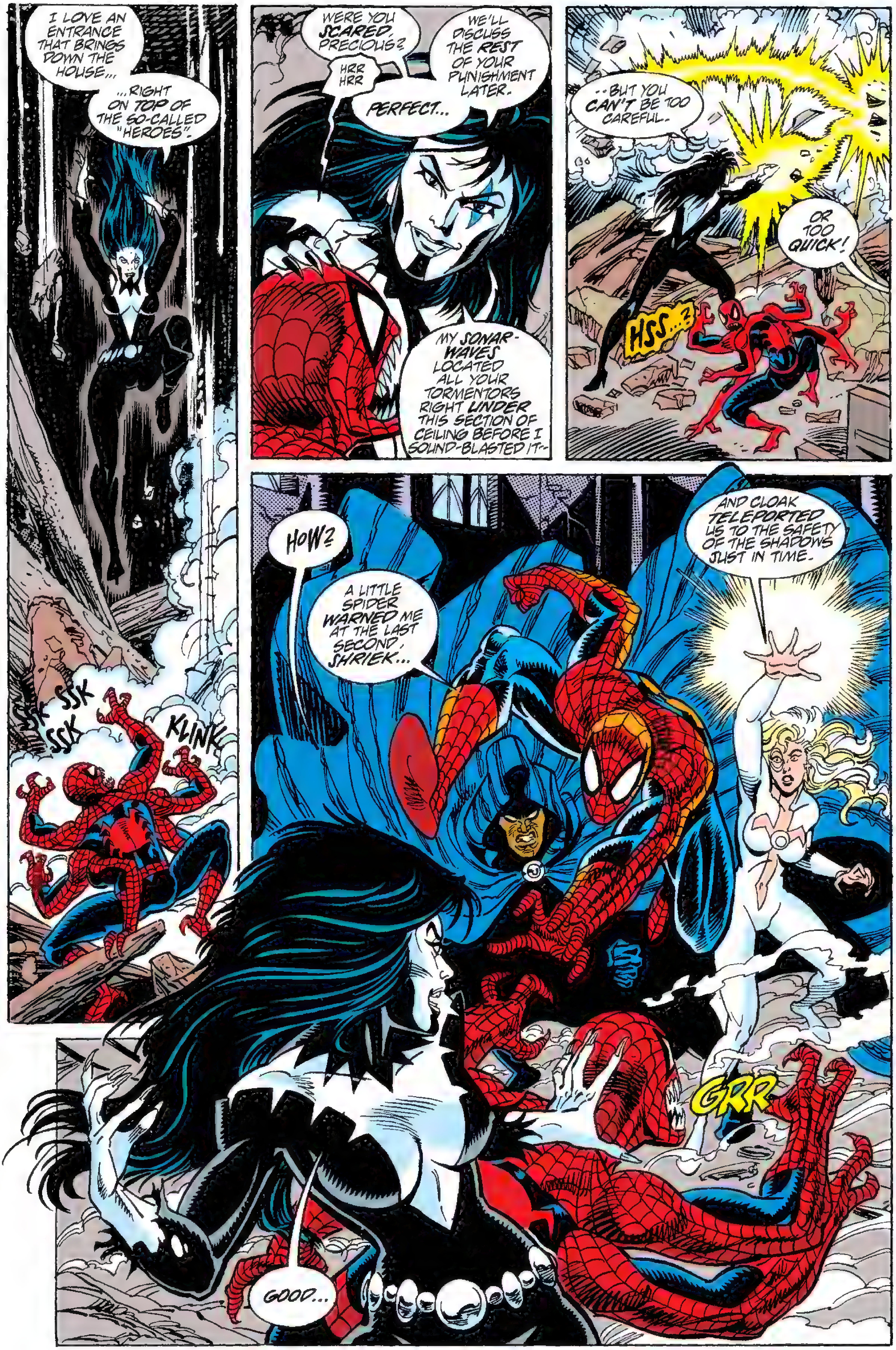

BUT SPIDER-MAN'S TRUE HOME WAITS ANXIOUSLY...
...SAVAGE SLAUGHTER AT RAVENCROFT HOSPITAL LED BY CONVICTED SERIAL-KILLER, CLETUS KASADY--A.K.A. CARNAGE--
...AND ALONE.
--HAS ALREADY CLAIMED THE LIVES OF EIGHTY-SEVEN VICTIMS.
AND PETER'S PROBABLY NEXT.
IN SOME WARPED WAY, HE FEELS A TWISTED RESPONSIBILITY FOR VENOM AND CARNAGE--TWO OF HIS MOST DANGEROUS FOES--
--BECAUSE SPIDER-MAN UNWITTINGLY BROUGHT THE ALIEN SYMBIOTE THAT CREATED THEM BOTH TO EARTH IN THE FIRST PLACE.
AND, DESPITE OUR AGREEMENT, PETER'S OUT THERE SOMEWHERE FACING THE GRAVEST THREAT OF HIS LIFE...
...I KNOW IT.
AND I USED TO UNDERSTAND IT...
A FEW FLOORS DOWN...
...TRAGEDY HAS ALREADY TAKEN ITS TOLL ON THE OSBORN FAMILY.
WHY, HARRY?
LITTLE NORMAN AND I LOVED YOU SO, SO MUCH...
...WHAT HORRIBLE DEMONS DROVE YOU TO TAKE UP YOUR FATHER'S TAINTED LEGACY AS THE GREEN GOBLIN?
AND, FOR A MEANINGLESS BATTLE WITH SPIDER-MAN, HOW COULD YOU BE WILLING TO DIE...
...AND LEAVE US SO VERY--
NOK NOK
--ALONE?
I'M SORRY--I'D PREFER TO BE WITH MY FAMILY RIGHT NOW, PLEASE...
I REALLY HOPE THAT STILL INCLUDES ME, LIZ.
MARY JANE?
I HAVEN'T SEEN YOU SINCE HARRY'S FUNERAL... I THOUGHT MAYBE--
WE'RE ALL AFRAID OF WHAT THE FUTURE HOLDS FOR US, LIZ...
...BUT AT LEAST WE CAN CONFRONT OUR FEARS TOGETHER.
MY BROTHER HAD TO GO BACK TO WORK TODAY, MJ...
...AND NORM'S BEEN ASKING ABOUT YOU AND HIS "UNCLE PETER" A LOT.

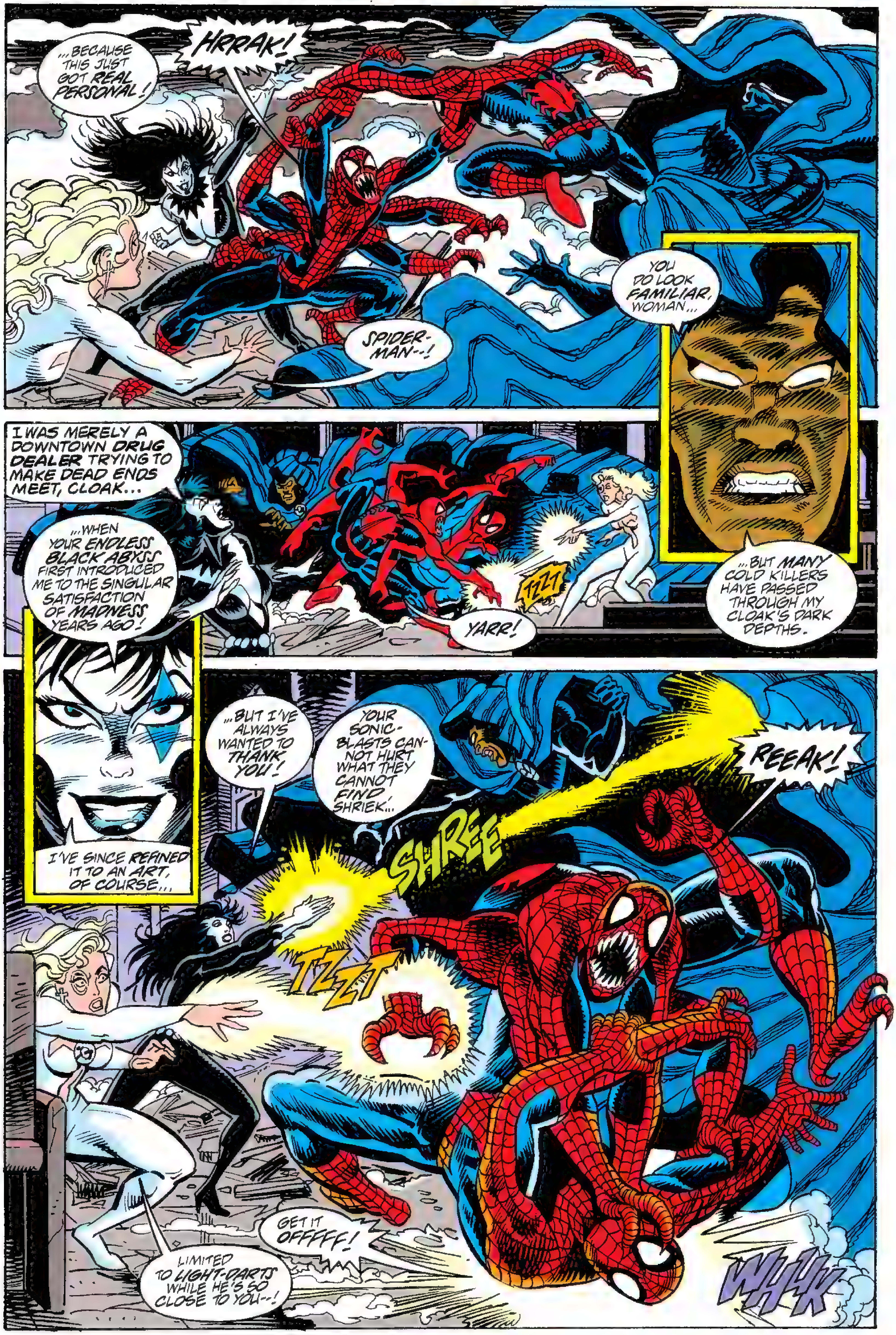

NO MATTER WHAT YOU HEAR ABOUT THE REST OF THE WORLD, THE CONCEPT OF "FAMILY" IN THE NINETIES...
...HAS TAKEN ON A MUCH BROADER MEANING IN NEW YORK CITY.
HOLD ON, CUTIE-EYES... THERE'S NO REASON TO TURN BACK NOW!
CARNAGE IS WAITING FOR US AT THE RENDEZVOUS, AND WE ALREADY TOOK CARE OF SPIDER-MAN--
ZWIP
GRRR
RARRGH!
MY LITTLE DOPPELGANGER'S ALWAYS IN SUCH PAIN...
...BUT HE KNEW MY SONICS-BLASTS WOULD CUSHION MY FALL.
SHREE
EVEN I CAN'T CONTROL DOPP'S BLOOD-LUST NOW THAT HE'S "RESCUED" ME FROM HIS GOODY-TWO-LEGS ALTER EGO...
...AND HE'S GOING BACK FOR THE KILL.
I'LL HAVE TO TRIM OUR LITTLE MASCOT'S CLAWS PERSONALLY...
...AS SOON AS WE'RE FINALLY FINISHED WITH SPIDER-MAN ONCE AND FOR ALL!
SHREEOM

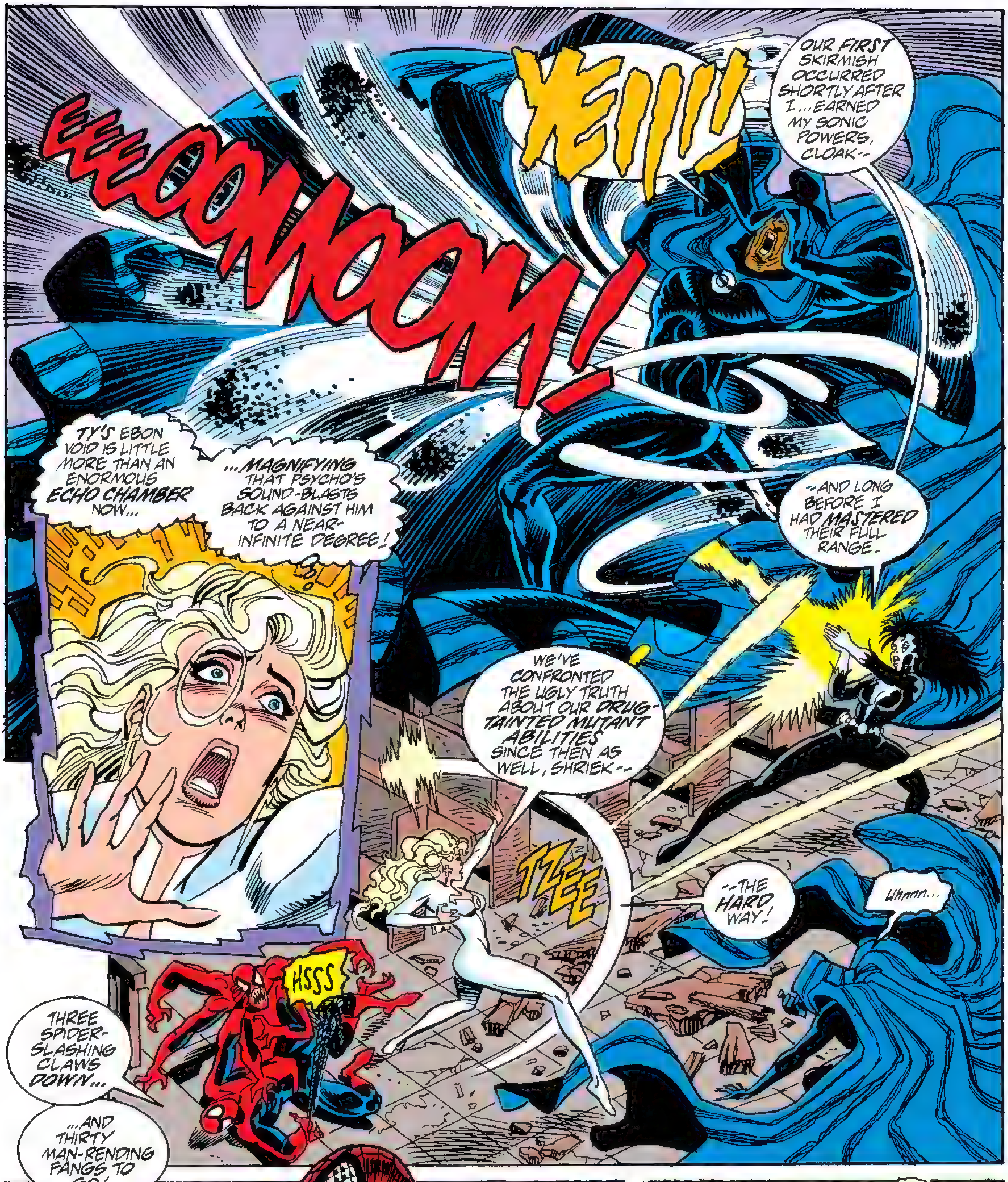

"JUST HOPE CARNAGE CAN AMUSE HIMSELF FOR A LITTLE LONGER AT THE LOCAL BASTION OF THE OLD ESTABLISHMENT...
"...THE DAILY BUGLE IS YESTERDAY'S NEWS!"
BUGLE
POSITIVELY EYE-CATCHING... IF I DO SAY SO MYSELF!
BUG
STRAKH
AND, EVEN IF THIS CHALLENGE IS TOO SUBTLE FOR MY COWERING PREY--
--JOLLY JAMESON HIMSELF CAN'T AFFORD TO BE...
THIS IS A MAJOR SCOOP, ROBBIE...
...AND OUR READERS HAVE EVERY RIGHT TO KNOW THAT CARNAGE IS LOOKING FOR SPIDER-MAN AND VENOM.
IT'S NOTHING MORE THAN TERRORIST BLACKMAIL, JONAH... THAT MANIAC NEARLY TORE YOU TO SHREDS--
I'M STILL THE PUBLISHER OF THIS PAPER, MAN, AND THE TOPIC'S NOT OPEN FOR DISCUSSION!
IF I BELIEVED THAT FOR ONE SECOND, I'D BE FAXING MY RESIGNATION LETTER FROM MY NEW DESK AT THE TIMES, AND YOU'D BE LOOKING FOR A NEW EDITOR IN CHIEF--
--BUT I'M HOPING WE CAN WORK OUT A JOURNALISTIC COMPROMISE...

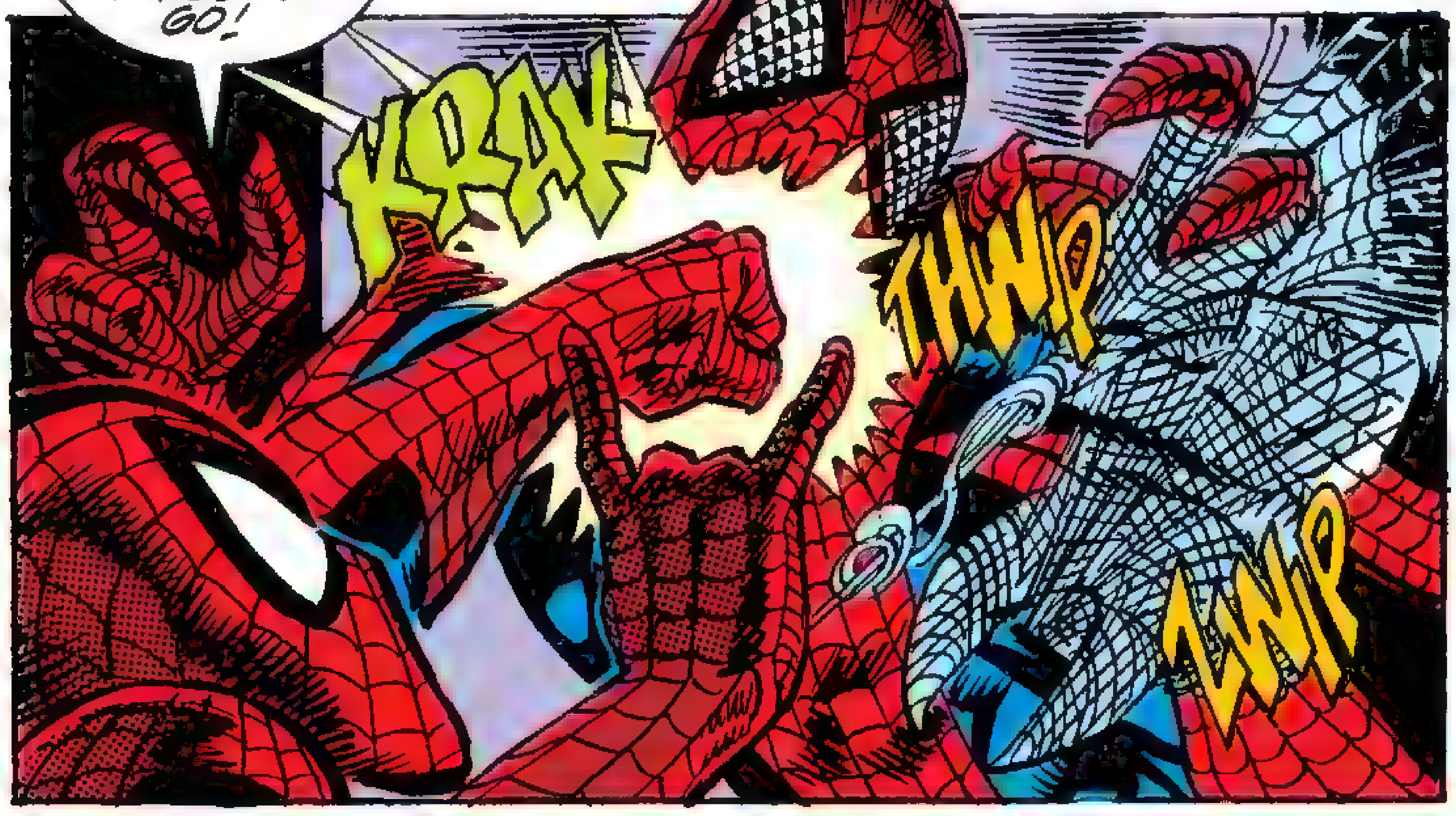
THE SEEMING SANCTUARY OF THE HOLY GHOST CHURCH...
THIS WILL SURELY HURT, SPIDER-MAN...
YEIII!
=UHNNN=
BUT IT WILL TRULY HELP FRIEND...
WE WERE FORCED TO RESET TWO OF YOUR FRACTURED RIBS, WALL-CRAWLER... WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU?
SOME SONIC-POWERED LUNATIC NAMED SHRIEK, WITH MY LEFTOVER DOPPELGANGER FROM THE INFINITY WARS ON HER LEASH...
...AND I HAVEN'T EVEN FOUND CARNAGE THE BARBARIAN YET.
MAYBE YOU SHOULD STAY HERE WITH US UNTIL YOUR BODY... GETS BETTER.
THESE BANDAGES ARE NO SUBSTITUTE FOR PROPER MEDICAL ATTENTION, TANDY...
APPRECIATE YOUR CANDOR, CLOAK...
...AND YOUR BEDSIDE MANNER, DAGGER, BUT--

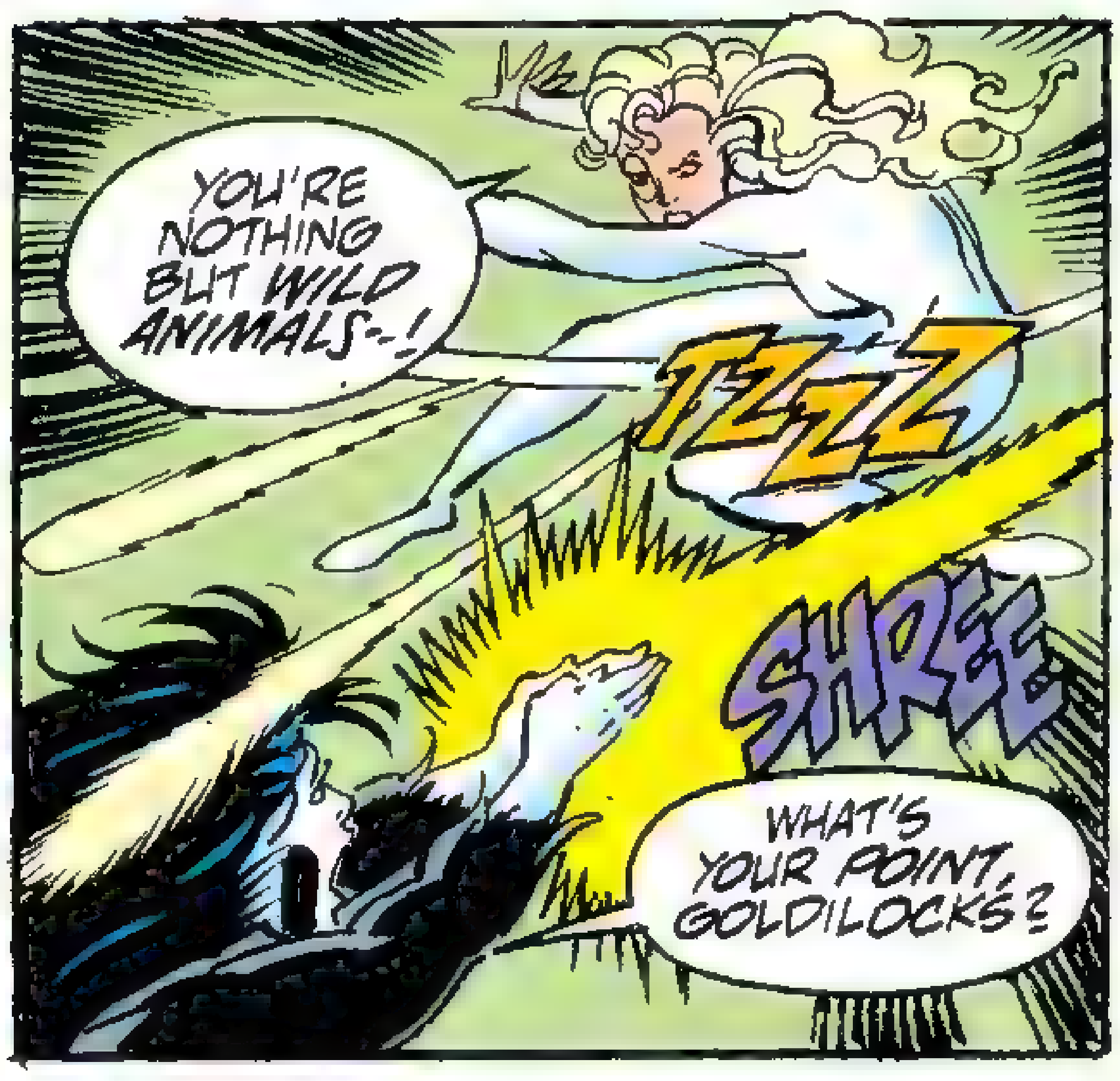

WHOA...
SKRASH
REAAK!
GET DOWN!
ZWIP
ZWIP
...SPIDER SENSE BLARING DANGER SIGNALS--
YOUR DOPPEL-GANGER...?!
COMPLETE WITH RAZOR-BARBED WEBBING, FOR THAT EXTRA-VICIOUS TWIST.
CORRUPTED COPY'S OBVIOUSLY DETERMINED TO ELIMINATE THE ONE-AND-ONLY ORIGINAL ME...
"...BUT WHERE'S HIS CURRENT KEEPER KEEPING HERSELF?"
TOOM
YEEAR!

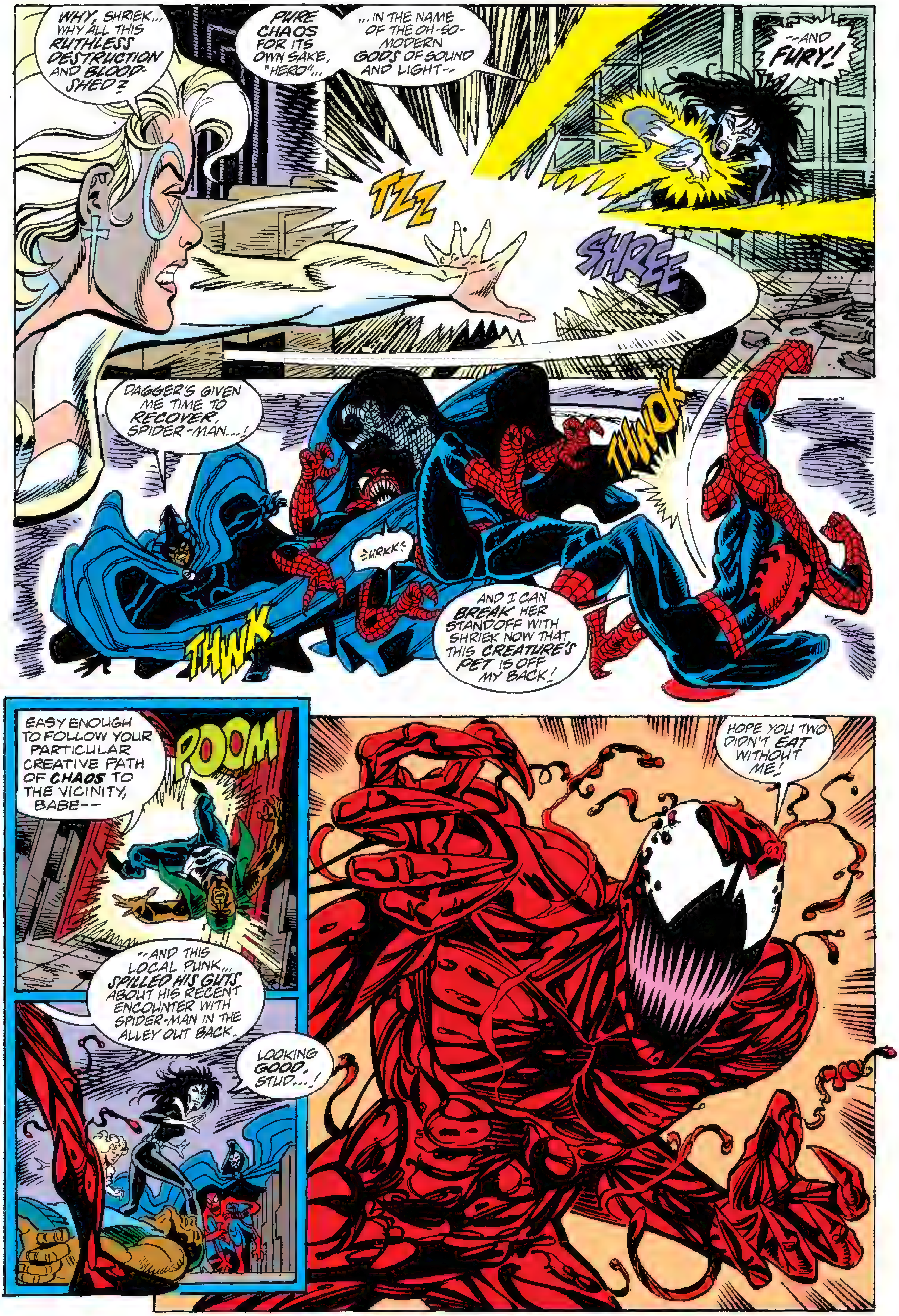

I LOVE AN ENTRANCE THAT BRINGS DOWN THE HOUSE...
...RIGHT ON TOP OF THE SO-CALLED "HEROES".
SSK SSK SSK
KLINK
WERE YOU SCARED, PRECIOUS?
HRR HRR
PERFECT...
WE'LL DISCUSS THE REST OF YOUR PUNISHMENT LATER.
MY SONAR-WAVES LOCATED ALL YOUR TORMENTORS RIGHT UNDER THIS SECTION OF CEILING BEFORE I SOUND-BLASTED IT--
--BUT YOU CAN'T BE TOO CAREFUL.
OR TOO QUICK!
HSS...?
HOW?
A LITTLE SPIDER WARNED ME AT THE LAST SECOND, SHRIEK...
AND CLOAK TELEPORTED US TO THE SAFETY OF THE SHADOWS JUST IN TIME.
GRR
GOOD...


...BECAUSE THIS JUST GOT REAL PERSONAL!
HRRAK!
SPIDER-MAN--!
YOU DO LOOK FAMILIAR, WOMAN...
...BUT MANY COLD KILLERS HAVE PASSED THROUGH MY CLOAK'S DARK DEPTHS.
I WAS MERELY A DOWNTOWN DRUG DEALER TRYING TO MAKE DEAD ENDS MEET, CLOAK...
...WHEN YOUR ENDLESS BLACK ABYSS FIRST INTRODUCED ME TO THE SINGULAR SATISFACTION OF MADNESS YEARS AGO!
TZZT
YARR!
I'VE SINCE REFINED IT TO AN ART, OF COURSE...
...BUT I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO THANK YOU!
YOUR SONIC-BLASTS CANNOT HURT WHAT THEY CANNOT FIND, SHRIEK...
SHREE
REEAK!
TZZT
GET IT OFFFFF!
LIMITED TO LIGHT-DARTS WHILE HE'S SO CLOSE TO YOU--!
WHUK

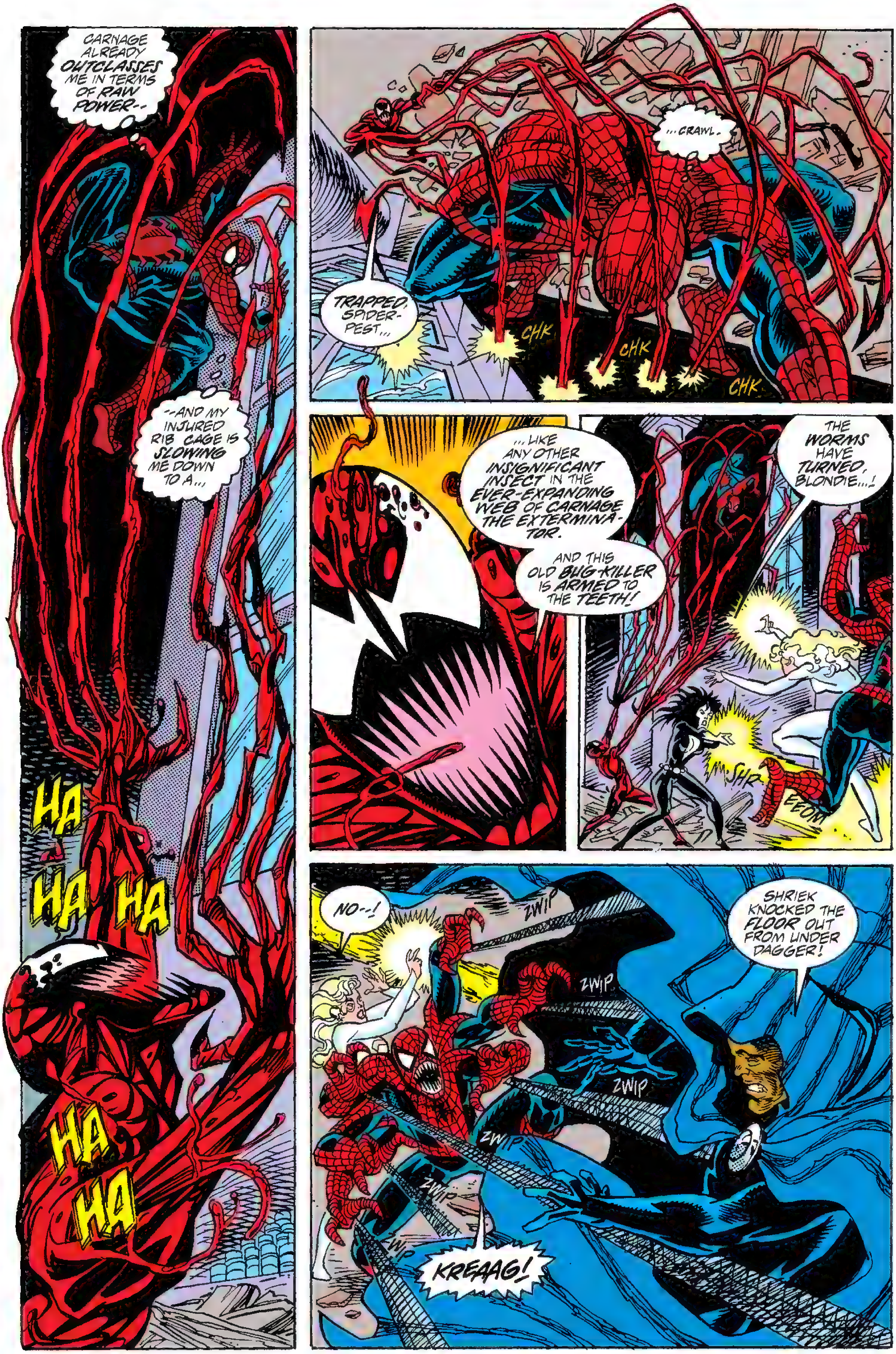

EEEOOWOOOM!
YEIIII!
OUR FIRST SKIRMISH OCCURRED SHORTLY AFTER I... EARNED MY SONIC POWERS, CLOAK--
TY'S EBON VOID IS LITTLE MORE THAN AN ENORMOUS ECHO CHAMBER NOW...
...MAGNIFYING THAT PSYCHO'S SOUND-BLASTS BACK AGAINST HIM TO A NEAR-INFINITE DEGREE!
--AND LONG BEFORE I HAD MASTERED THEIR FULL RANGE.
WE'VE CONFRONTED THE UGLY TRUTH ABOUT OUR DRUG-TAINTED MUTANT ABILITIES SINCE THEN AS WELL, SHRIEK--
TZEE
--THE HARD WAY!
Uhnnn...
HSSS
THREE SPIDER-SLASHING CLAWS DOWN...

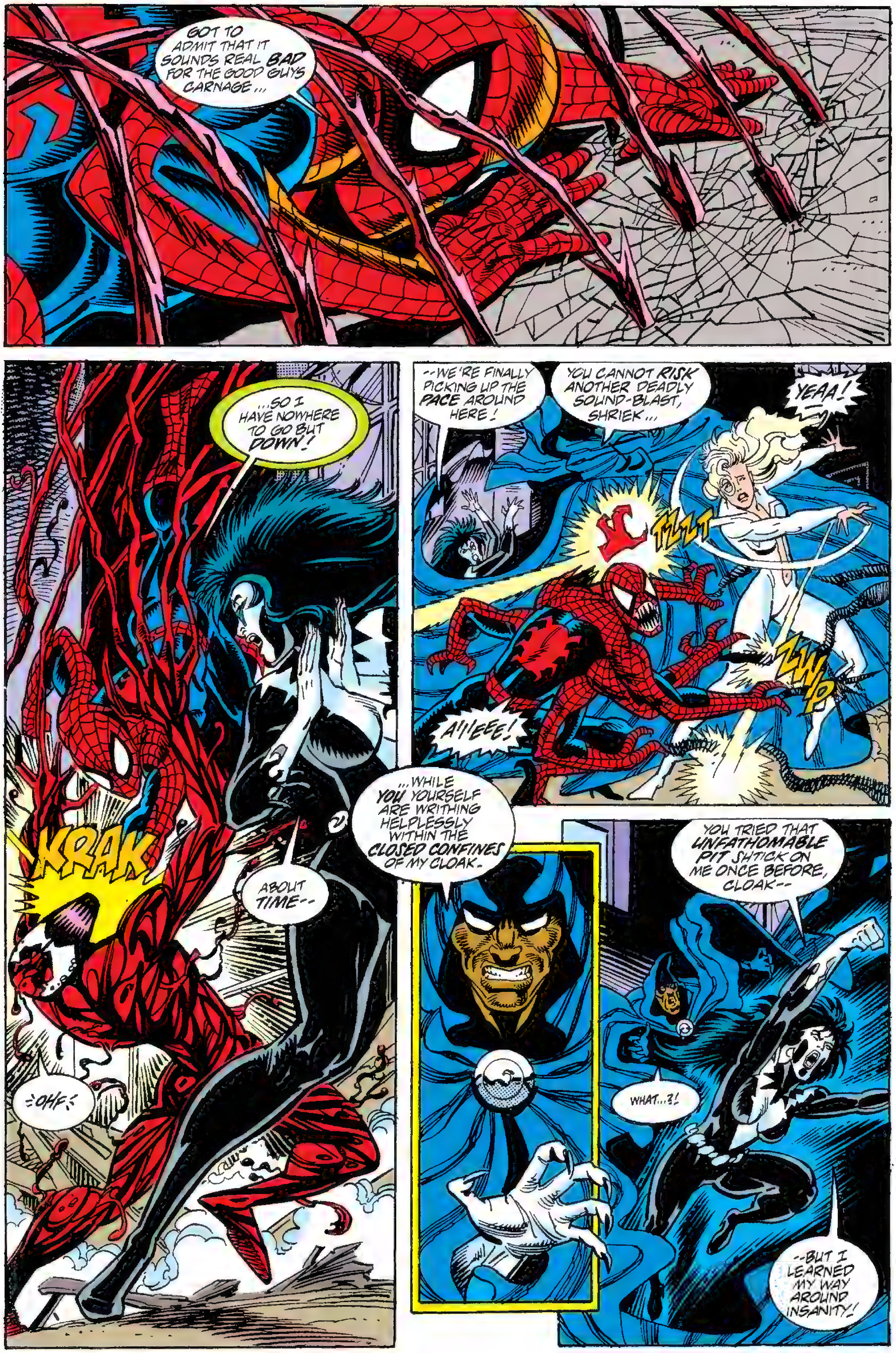

...AND THIRTY MAN-RENDING FANGS TO GO!
KRAK
THWIP
ZWIP

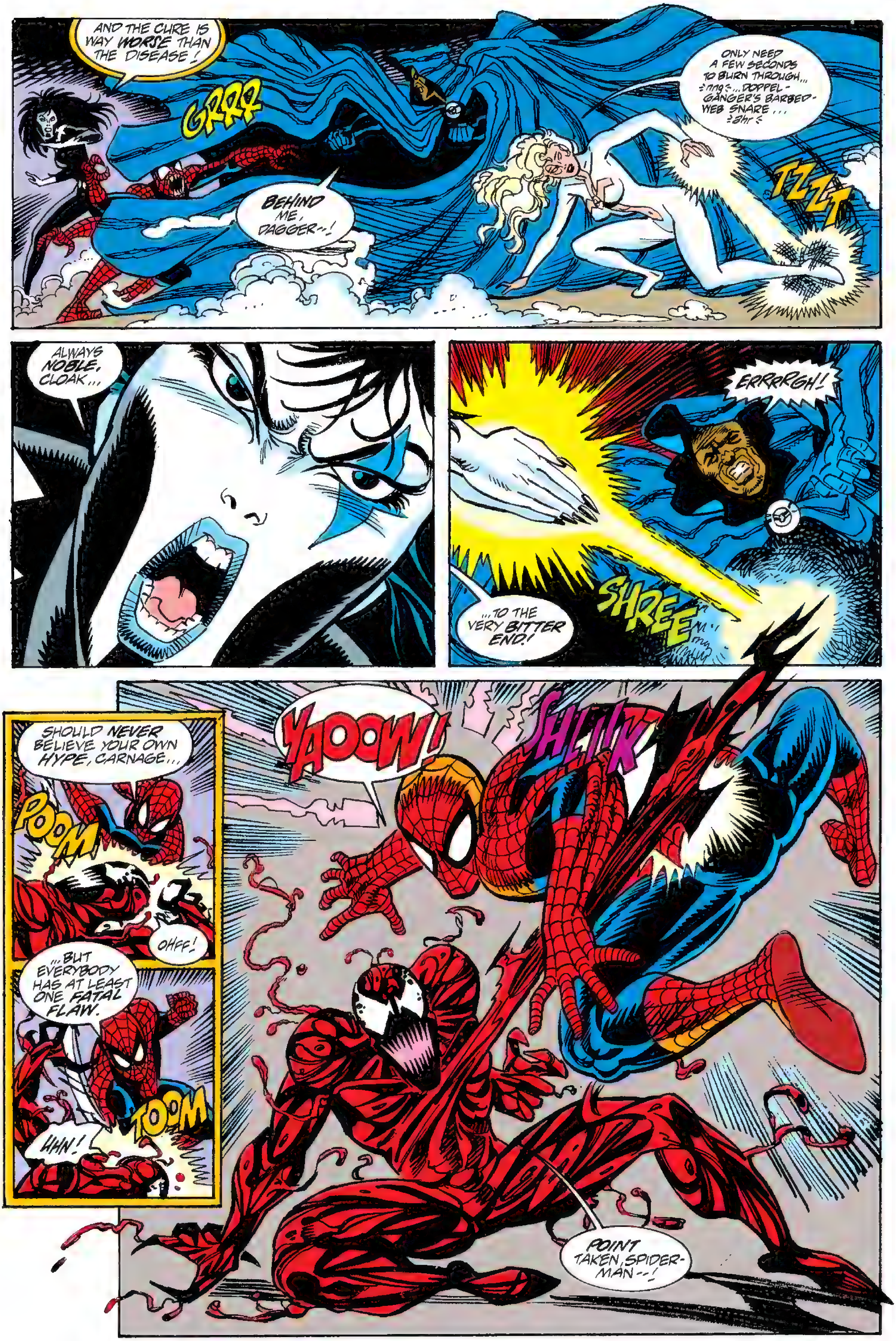

YOU'RE NOTHING BUT WILD ANIMALS--!
TZZZ
SHREE
WHAT'S YOUR POINT, GOLDILOCKS?

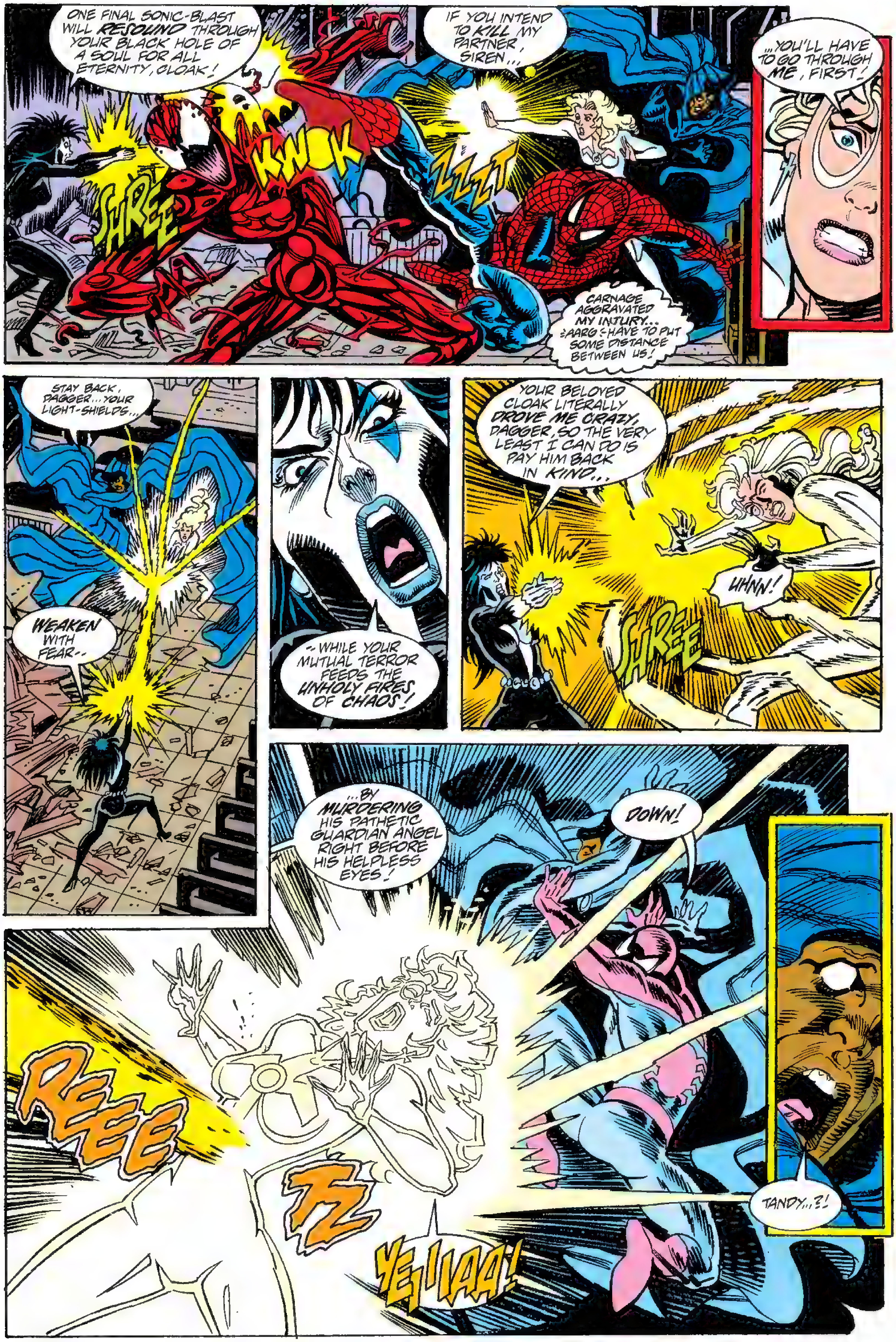

WHY, SHRIEK... WHY ALL THIS RUTHLESS DESTRUCTION AND BLOOD-SHED?
PURE CHAOS FOR ITS OWN SAKE, "HERO"...
...IN THE NAME OF THE OH-SO-MODERN GODS OF SOUND AND LIGHT--
--AND FURY!
TZZ
SHREE
DAGGER'S GIVEN ME TIME TO RECOVER, SPIDER-MAN...!
THWOK
URKK
THWK
AND I CAN BREAK HER STANDOFF WITH SHRIEK NOW THAT THIS CREATURE'S PET IS OFF MY BACK!
EASY ENOUGH TO FOLLOW YOUR PARTICULAR CREATIVE PATH OF CHAOS TO THE VICINITY, BABE--
POOM
--AND THIS LOCAL PUNK... SPILLED HIS GUTS ABOUT HIS RECENT ENCOUNTER WITH SPIDER-MAN IN THE ALLEY OUT BACK.
LOOKING GOOD, STUD...!
HOPE YOU TWO DIDN'T EAT WITHOUT ME!

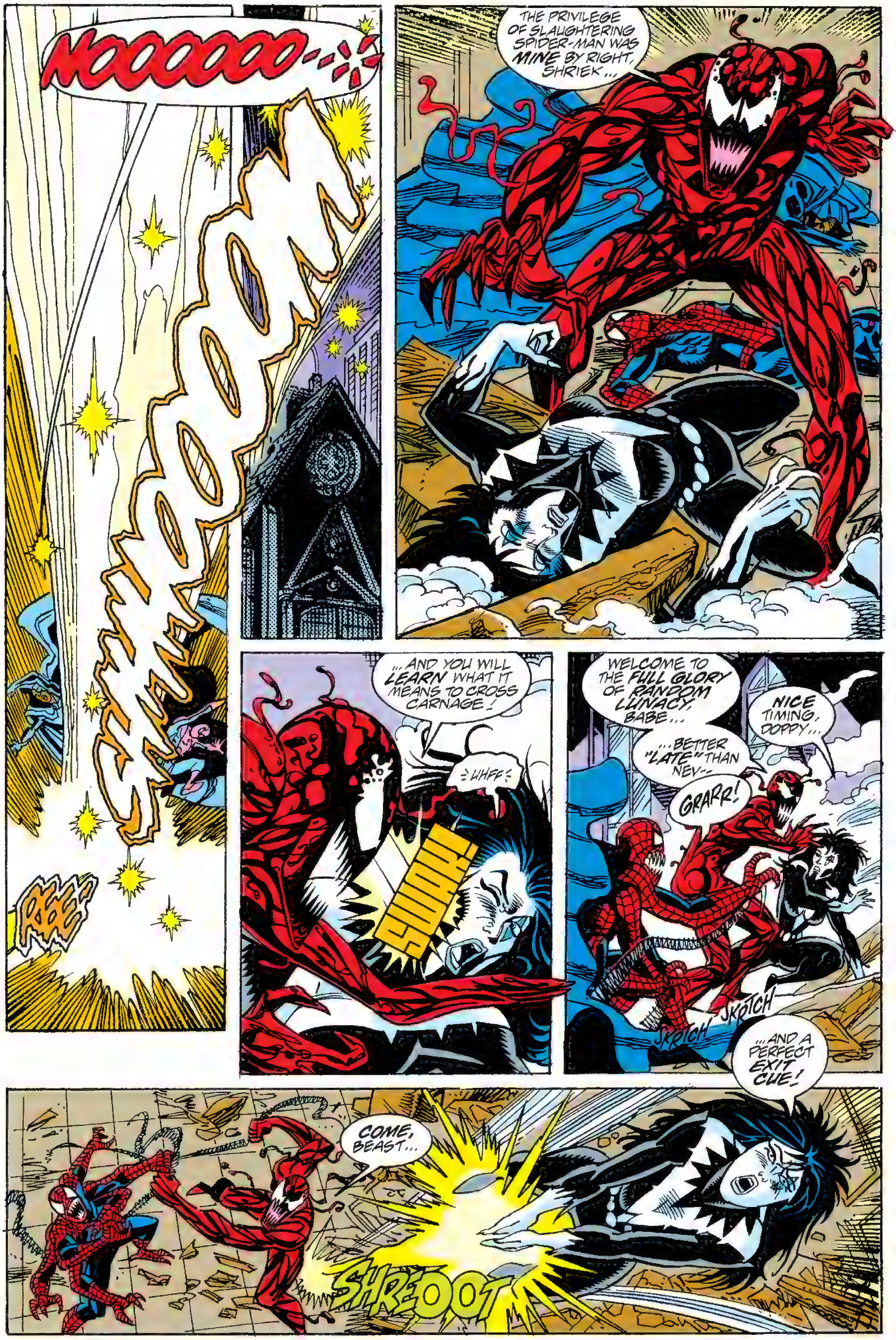
FIRST, I GET MY HOUSE IN ORDER!
CARNAGE IS FAR MORE DANGEROUS THAN THE OTHER PAIR COMBINED, DAGGER!
I CAN'T LET THAT WITCH HURT CLOAK AGAIN--
TZZZZ
--AKK--
--BUT THE DOPPELGANGER IS JUST AS DETERMINED TO PROTECT SHRIEK.
SKLTCH
GREEAR!
ZWIP ZWIP
THE SIMPLE-MINDED BRUTE'S RAZOR-WEBBING IS WASTED ON THE VAST EMPTINESS OF MY CLOAK, DAGGER
ZWIP
ZWIP
SSSS
ZWIP
AND THE "DOPE" EL-GANGER WILL BE EVEN EASIER TO CONFUSE WITHOUT HIS LATEST BABY SITTER'S BAD ADVICE.
THWIP
YOUR FIRST--
mph
--AND FINAL-- MISTAKE, SPIDER-MAN!
SHREOOM
OUR KIND TAKE CARE OF THEMSELVES, FOOL...!

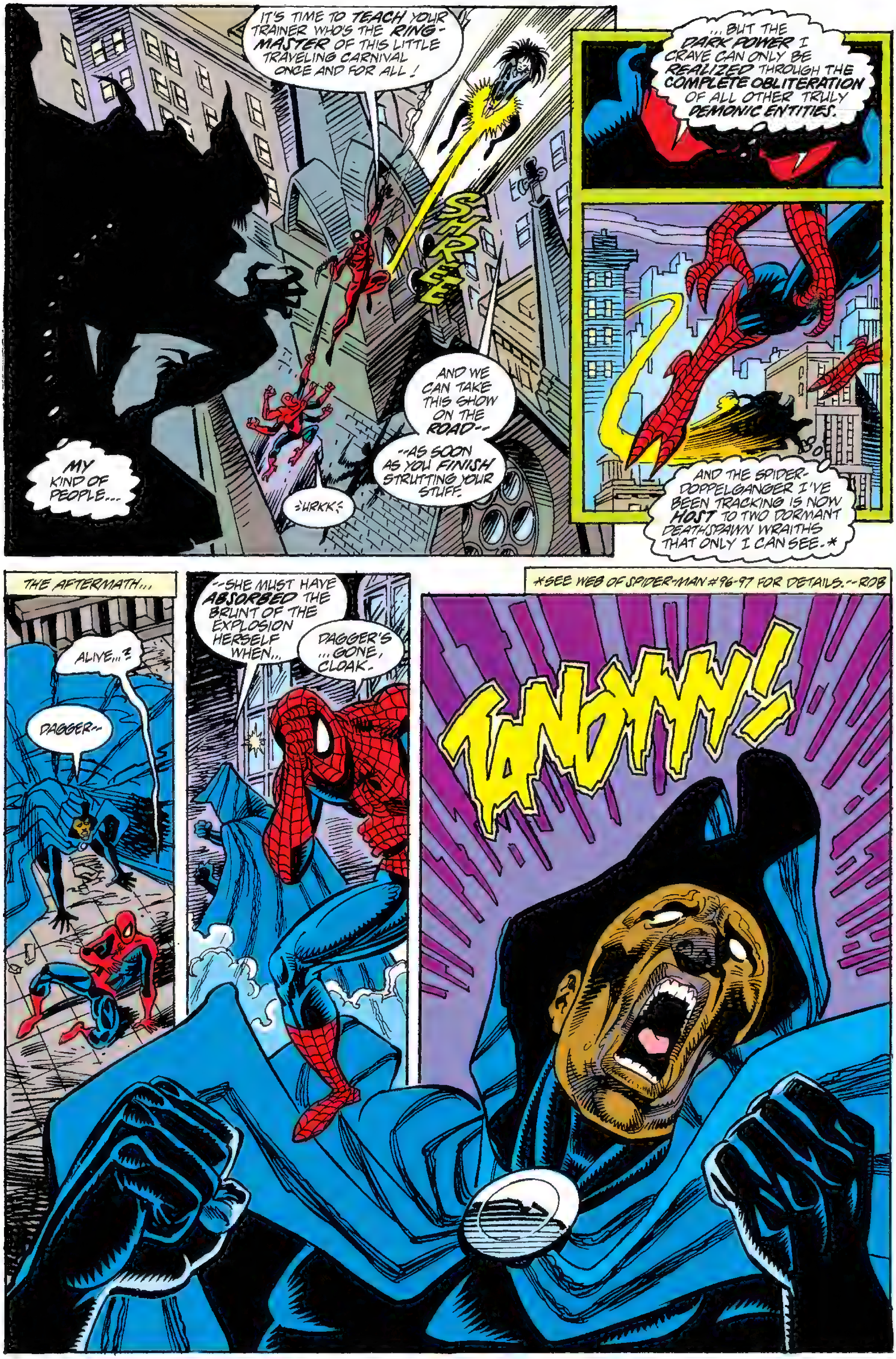

CARNAGE ALREADY OUTCLASSES ME IN TERMS OF RAW POWER--
--AND MY INJURED RIB CAGE IS SLOWING ME DOWN TO A...
...CRAWL.
TRAPPED, SPIDER-PEST...
CHK
CHK
CHK
HA
HA
HA
HA
HA
...LIKE ANY OTHER INSIGNIFICANT INSECT IN THE EVER-EXPANDING WEB OF CARNAGE THE EXTERMINATOR.
AND THIS OLD BUG-KILLER IS ARMED TO THE TEETH!
THE WORMS HAVE TURNED, BLONDIE...!
SHP
EEOM
NO--!
ZWIP
ZWIP
ZWIP
ZWIP
ZWIP
WIP
SHRIEK KNOCKED THE FLOOR OUT FROM UNDER DAGGER!
KREAAG!

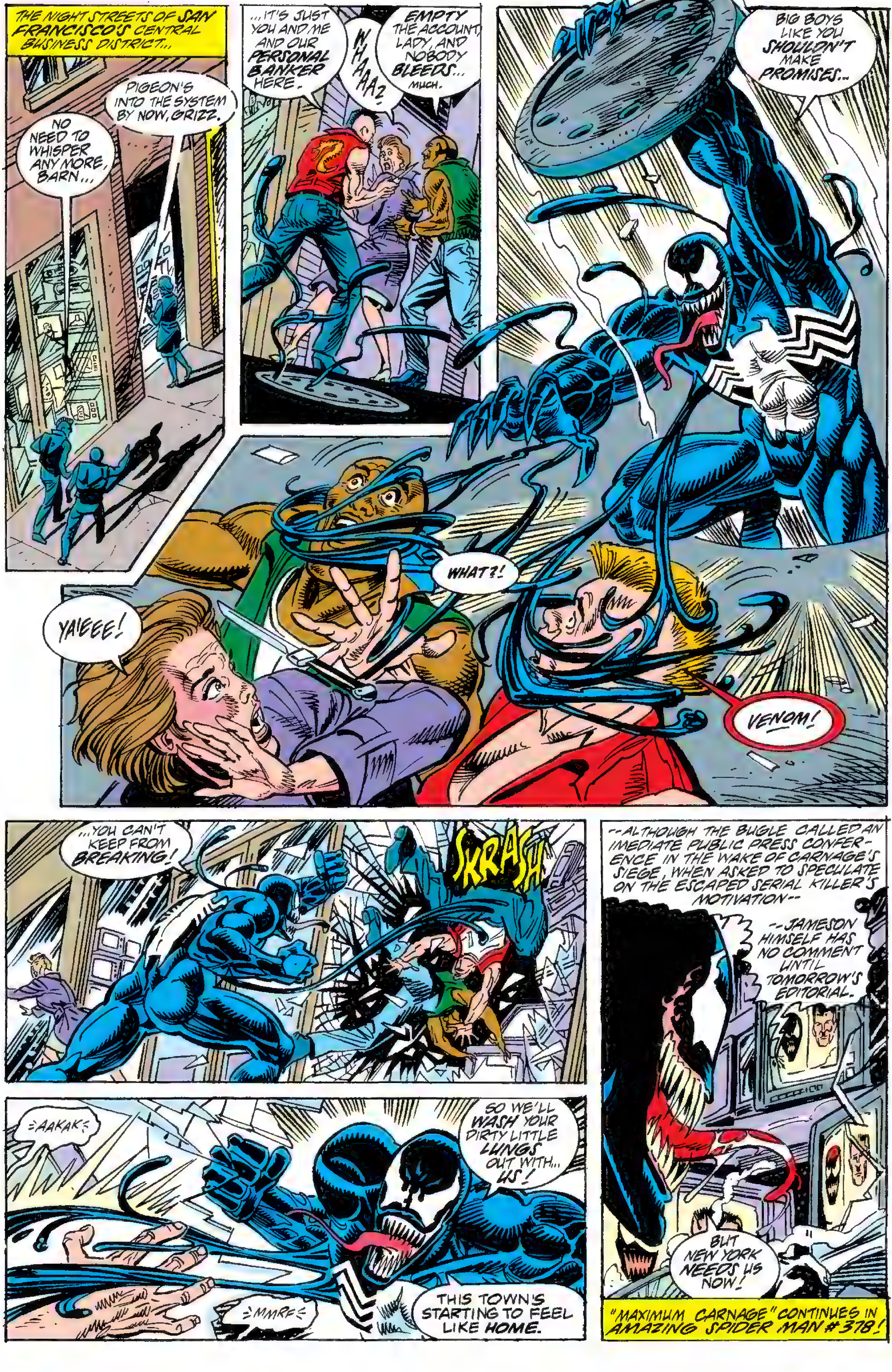

GOT TO ADMIT THAT IT SOUNDS REAL BAD FOR THE GOOD GUYS CARNAGE...
...SO I HAVE NOWHERE TO GO BUT DOWN!
KRAK
:OHF:
ABOUT TIME--
--WE'RE FINALLY PICKING UP THE PACE AROUND HERE!
YOU CANNOT RISK ANOTHER DEADLY SOUND-BLAST, SHRIEK...
YEAA!
TZZT
ZWIP
A!!EEE!
...WHILE YOU YOURSELF ARE WRITHING HELPLESSLY WITHIN THE CLOSED CONFINES OF MY CLOAK.
YOU TRIED THAT UNFATHOMABLE PIT SHTICK ON ME ONCE BEFORE, CLOAK--
WHAT...?!
--BUT I LEARNED MY WAY AROUND INSANITY!


AND THE CURE IS WAY WORSE THAN THE DISEASE!
GRRR
ONLY NEED A FEW SECONDS TO BURN THROUGH... =nng=... DOPPELGANGER'S BARBED-WEB SNARE... =ahr=
BEHIND ME, DAGGER--!
TZZZT
ALWAYS NOBLE, CLOAK...
ERRRRGH!
...TO THE VERY BITTER END!
SHREE
SHOULD NEVER BELIEVE YOUR OWN HYPE, CARNAGE...
POOM
OHFF!
...BUT EVERYBODY HAS AT LEAST ONE FATAL FLAW.
TOOM
UHN!
YAOOW!
SHLIK
POINT TAKEN, SPIDER-MAN--!


ONE FINAL SONIC-BLAST WILL RESOUND THROUGH YOUR BLACK HOLE OF A SOUL FOR ALL ETERNITY, CLOAK!
IF YOU INTEND TO KILL MY PARTNER, SIREN...
...YOU'LL HAVE TO GO THROUGH ME, FIRST!
SHREE
KWOK
ZZZT
CARNAGE AGGRAVATED MY INJURY... AARG -- HAVE TO PUT SOME DISTANCE BETWEEN US!
STAY BACK, DAGGER... YOUR LIGHT-SHIELDS...
WEAKEN WITH FEAR--
--WHILE YOUR MUTUAL TERROR FEEDS THE UNHOLY FIRES OF CHAOS!
YOUR BELOVED CLOAK LITERALLY DROVE ME CRAZY, DAGGER, SO THE VERY LEAST I CAN DO IS PAY HIM BACK IN KIND...
UHNN!
SHREE
...BY MURDERING HIS PATHETIC GUARDIAN ANGEL RIGHT BEFORE HIS HELPLESS EYES!
DOWN!
REEEE
TZ
YEIIIAA!
TANDY...?!


NOOOOOO--!
SHHHOOOOM
RBBE
THE PRIVILEGE OF SLAUGHTERING SPIDER-MAN WAS *MINE* BY RIGHT, SHRIEK...
...AND YOU WILL *LEARN* WHAT IT MEANS TO CROSS CARNAGE!
UHFF
SMOCK
WELCOME TO THE *FULL GLORY* OF *RANDOM LUNACY,* BABE...
...BETTER "*LATE*" THAN NEV--
NICE TIMING, DOPPY...
GRARR!
SKRICH
SKRITCH
...AND A PERFECT *EXIT CUE!*
COME, BEAST...
SHREOOT


IT'S TIME TO TEACH YOUR TRAINER WHO'S THE RING-MASTER OF THIS LITTLE TRAVELING CARNIVAL ONCE AND FOR ALL!
SHREEE
AND WE CAN TAKE THIS SHOW ON THE ROAD--
--AS SOON AS YOU FINISH STRUTTING YOUR STUFF.
MY KIND OF PEOPLE...
:URKK:
...BUT THE DARK POWER I CRAVE CAN ONLY BE REALIZED THROUGH THE COMPLETE OBLITERATION OF ALL OTHER TRULY DEMONIC ENTITIES.
AND THE SPIDER-DOPPELGANGER I'VE BEEN TRACKING IS NOW HOST TO TWO DORMANT DEATHSPAWN WRAITHS THAT ONLY I CAN SEE.*
THE AFTERMATH...
ALIVE...?
DAGGER--
--SHE MUST HAVE ABSORBED THE BRUNT OF THE EXPLOSION HERSELF WHEN...
DAGGER'S ...GONE, CLOAK.
*SEE WEB OF SPIDER-MAN #96-97 FOR DETAILS. --ROB
TANGWWW!


THE NIGHT STREETS OF SAN FRANCISCO'S CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT...
PIGEON'S INTO THE SYSTEM BY NOW, GRIZZ.
NO NEED TO WHISPER ANY MORE, BARN...
...IT'S JUST YOU AND ME AND OUR PERSONAL BANKER HERE.
WHAAAA?
EMPTY THE ACCOUNT, LADY, AND NOBODY BLEEDS... MUCH.
BIG BOYS LIKE YOU SHOULDN'T MAKE PROMISES...
WHAT?!
YAIEEE!
VENOM!
...YOU CAN'T KEEP FROM BREAKING!
SKRASH
--ALTHOUGH THE BUGLE CALLED AN IMEDIATE PUBLIC PRESS CONFER-ENCE IN THE WAKE OF CARNAGE'S SIEGE, WHEN ASKED TO SPECULATE ON THE ESCAPED SERIAL KILLER'S MOTIVATION--
--JAMESON HIMSELF HAS NO COMMENT UNTIL TOMORROW'S EDITORIAL.
:AAKAK:
SO WE'LL WASH YOUR DIRTY LITTLE LUNGS OUT WITH... US!
THIS TOWN'S STARTING TO FEEL LIKE HOME.
:MMRF:
BUT NEW YORK NEEDS US NOW!
"MAXIMUM CARNAGE" CONTINUES IN AMAZING SPIDER MAN #378!

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PART 3 OF 14
the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN®
30 YEARS
X-MEN®
1963-1993
BAGS + RE '92
THE RAGE OF VENOM!™

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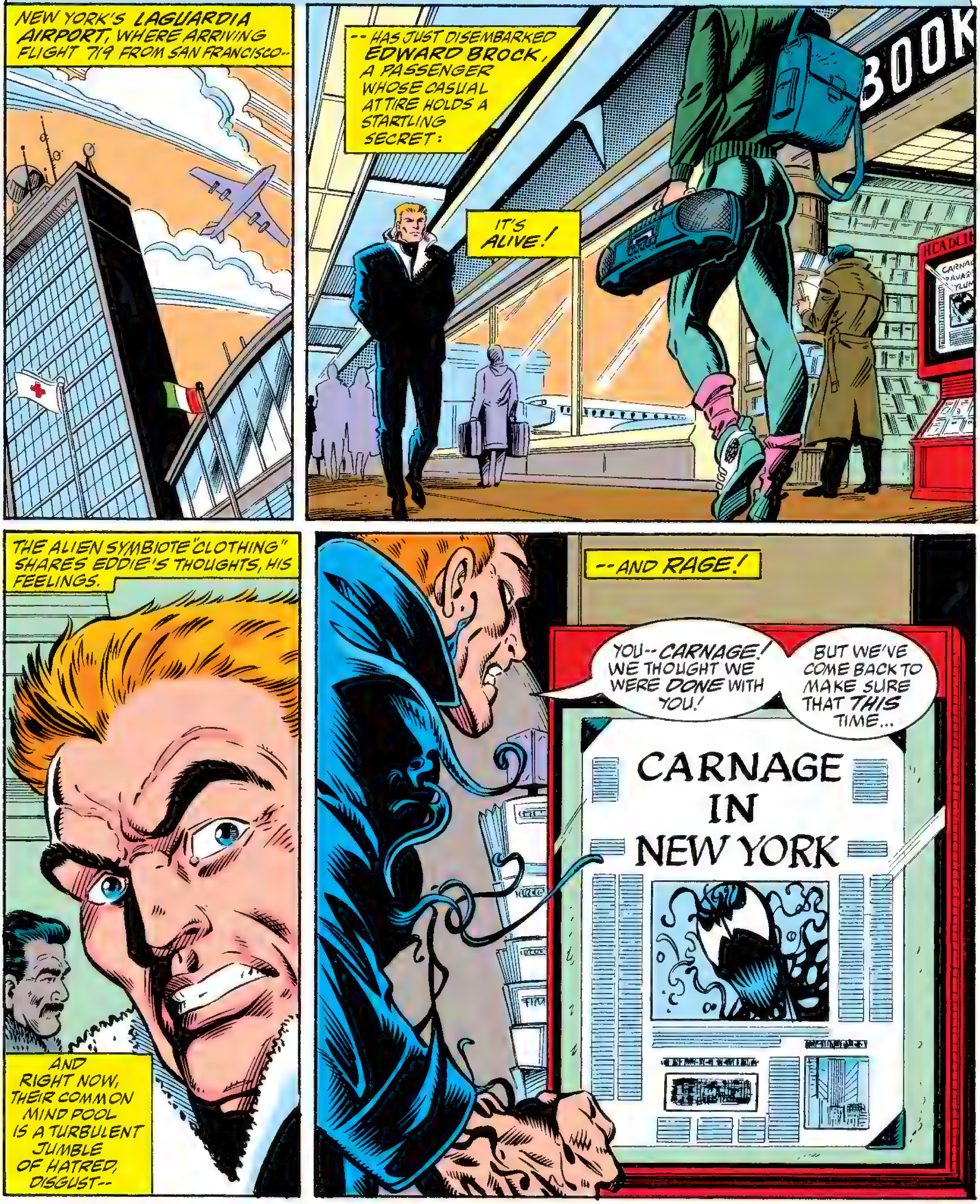
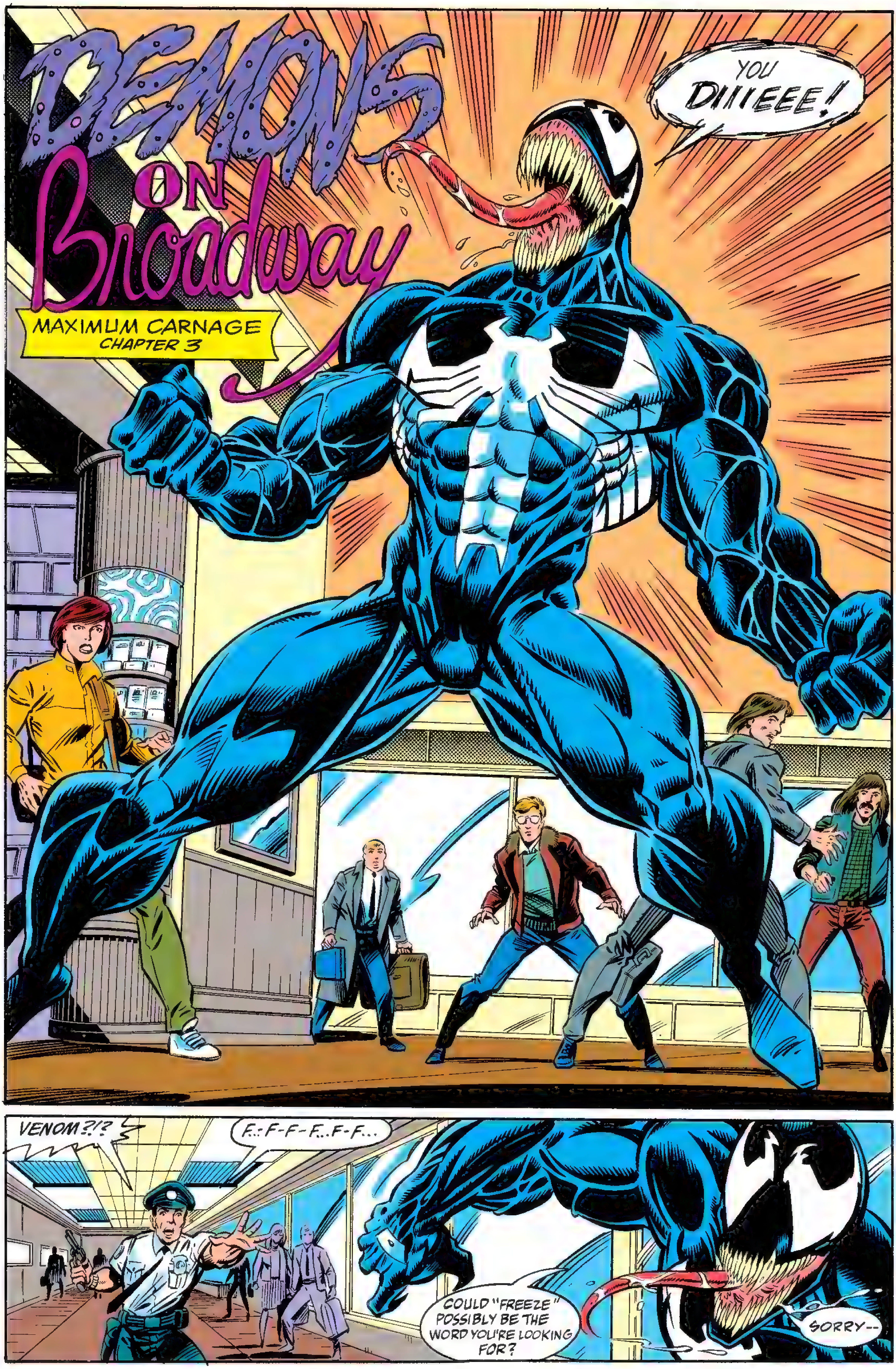
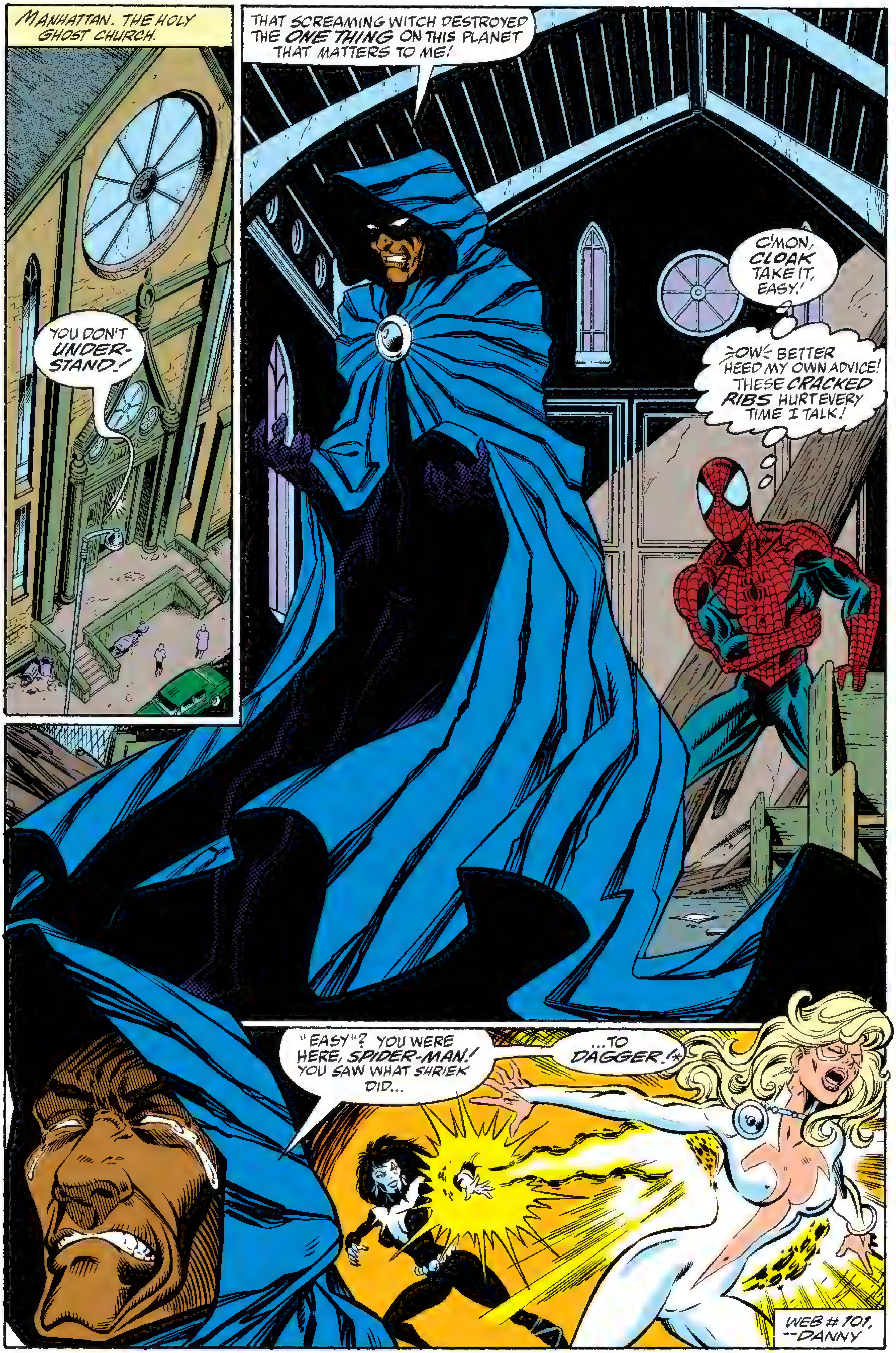
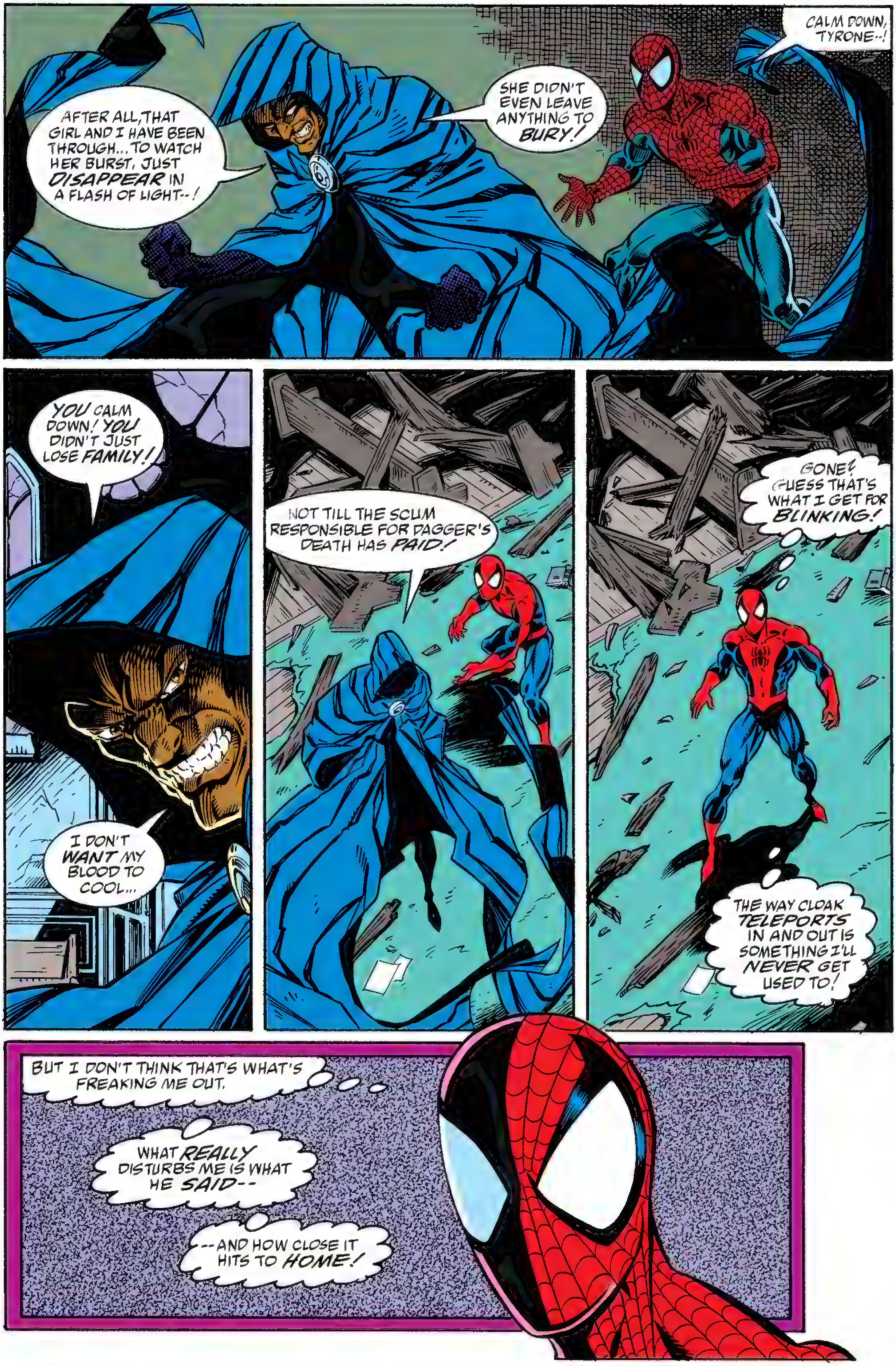
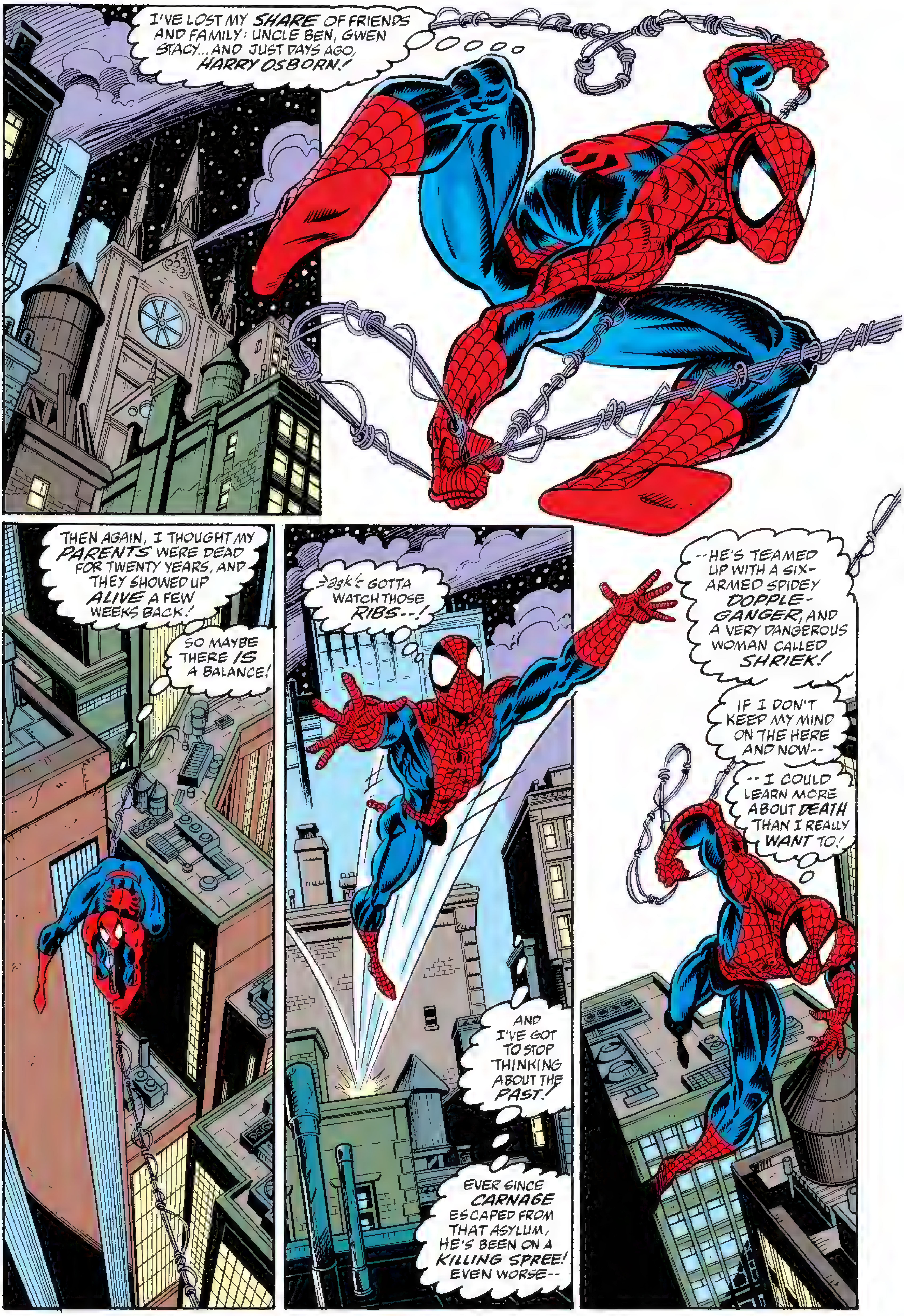

NEW YORK'S LAGUARDIA AIRPORT, WHERE ARRIVING FLIGHT 719 FROM SAN FRANCISCO--
--HAS JUST DISEMBARKED EDWARD BROCK, A PASSENGER WHOSE CASUAL ATTIRE HOLDS A STARTLING SECRET:
IT'S ALIVE!
BOOK
THE ALIEN SYMBIOTE "CLOTHING" SHARES EDDIE'S THOUGHTS, HIS FEELINGS.
AND RIGHT NOW, THEIR COMMON MIND POOL IS A TURBULENT JUMBLE OF HATRED, DISGUST--
--AND RAGE!
YOU--CARNAGE! WE THOUGHT WE WERE DONE WITH YOU!
BUT WE'VE COME BACK TO MAKE SURE THAT THIS TIME...
CARNAGE IN NEW YORK

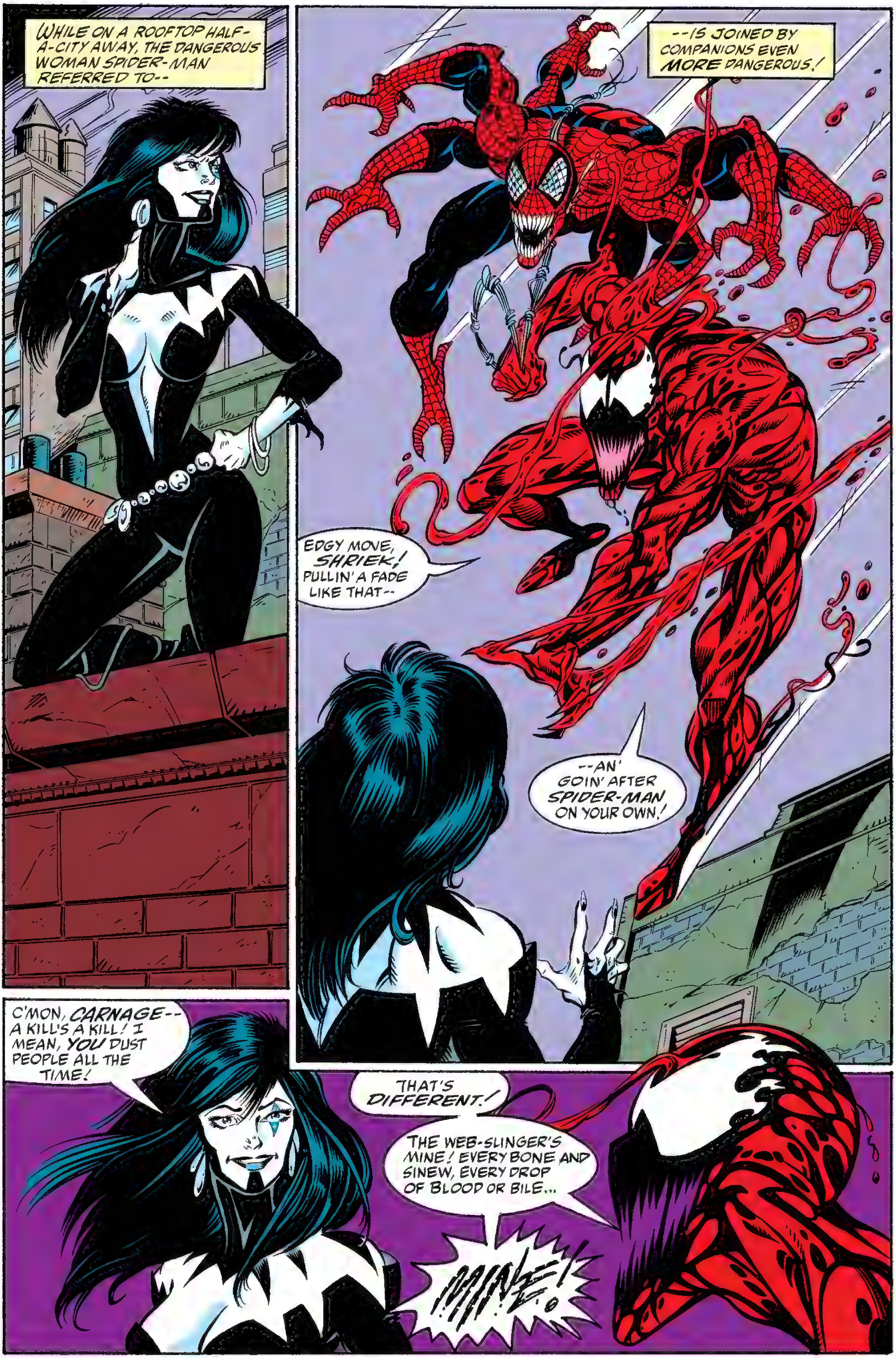

DEMONS ON Broadway
MAXIMUM CARNAGE CHAPTER 3
YOU DIIIEEE!
VENOM?!?
F..: F-F-F..F-F...
COULD "FREEZE" POSSIBLY BE THE WORD YOU'RE LOOKING FOR?
SORRY--

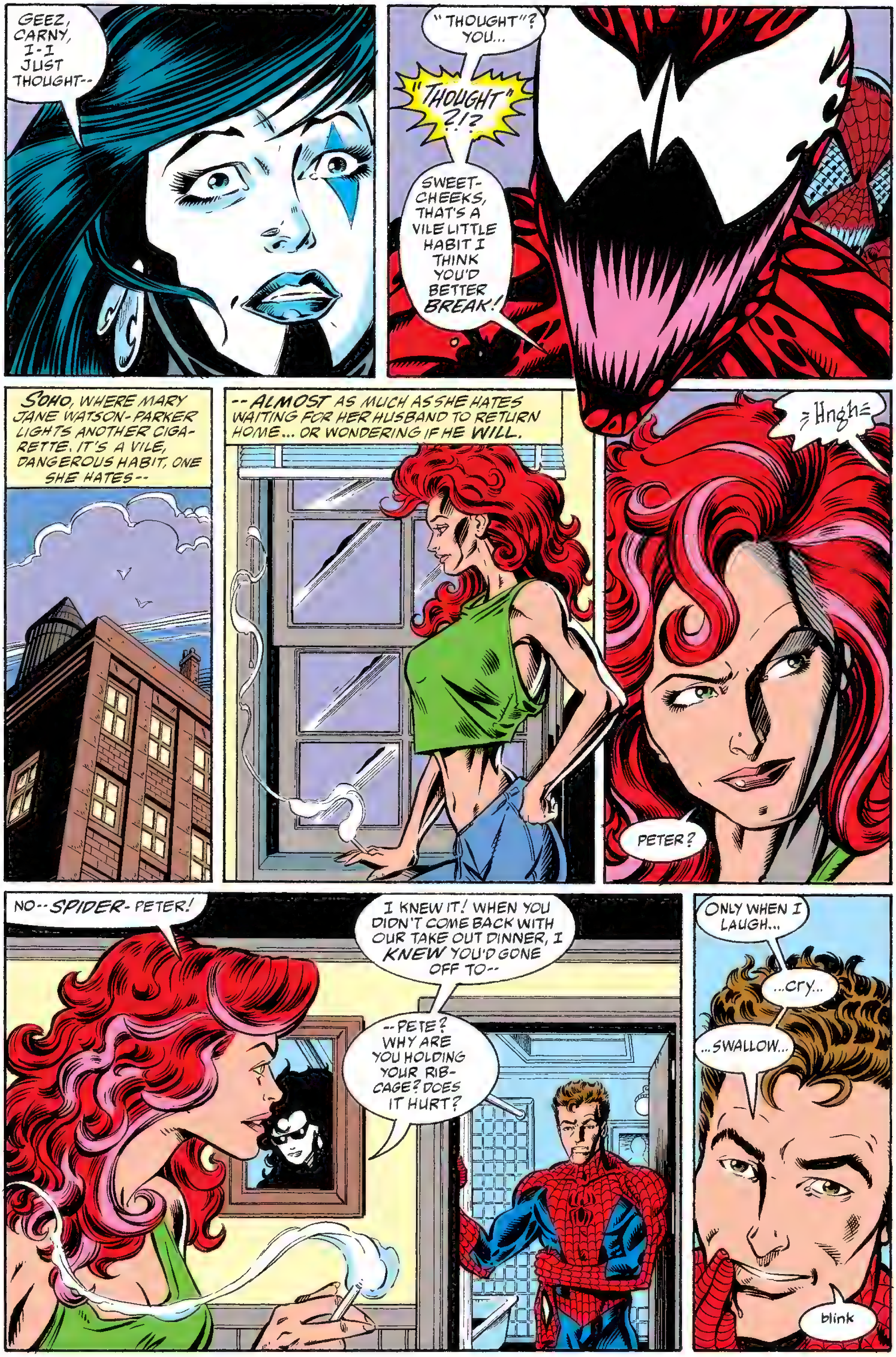
--WE DON'T HAVE *TIME* TO FREEZE!
CHAKREESH
RETURNING TO NEW YORK IS RISKY--
--AND *UNEXPECTED*--
--SINCE WE FINALLY RECONCILED OUR VENDETTA AGAINST *SPIDER-MAN!*
BUT WE'RE NOT AFTER THE INFERNAL *WALL-CRAWLER* THIS TIME!
NO, WE SEEK INSTEAD A MONSTER THAT WE, OURSELVES, HELPED TO *CREATE!* AND THUS--
GRAY LINE
the Gray Line
--MUST NOW *DESTROY!*

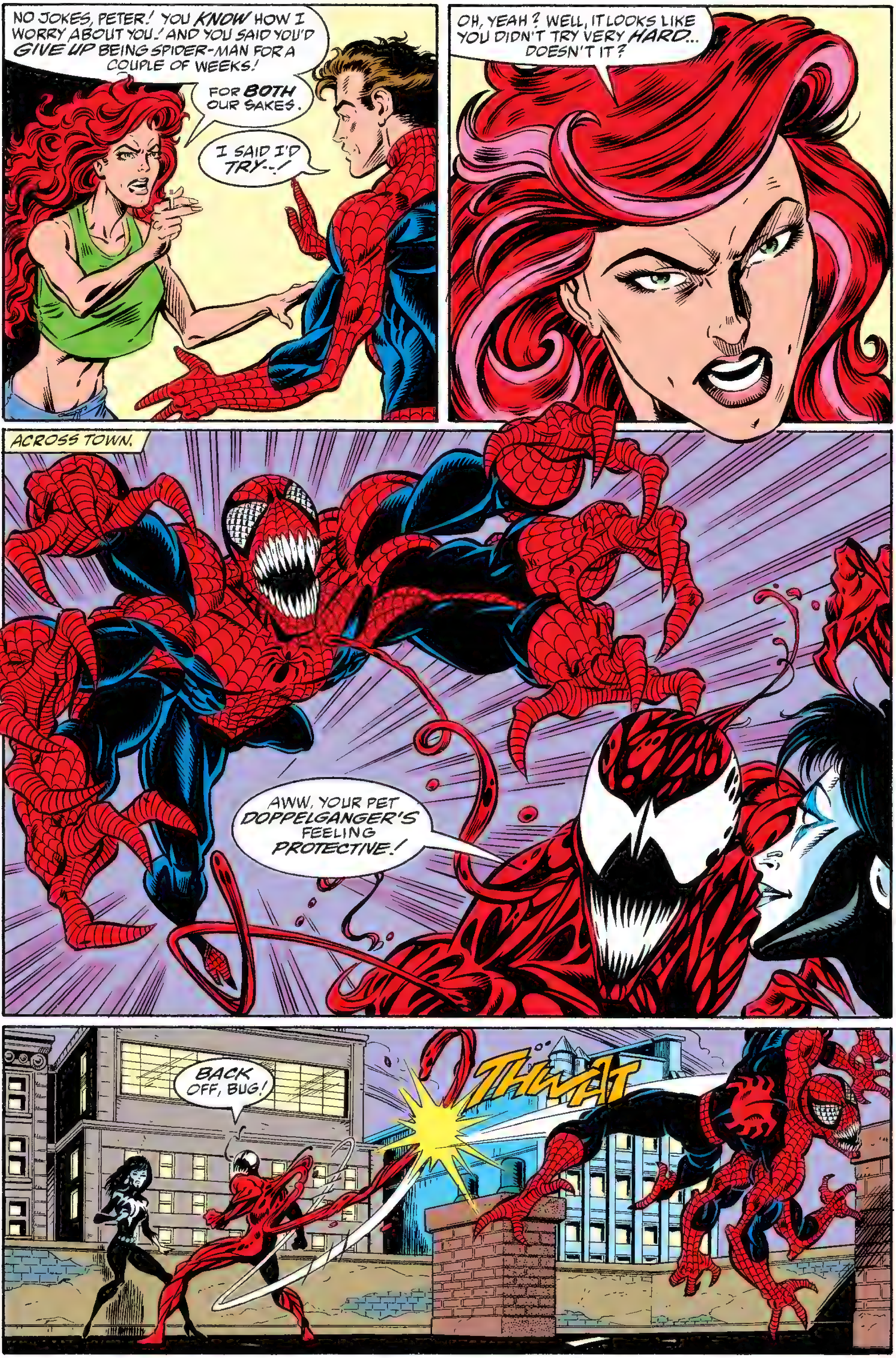

MANHATTAN. THE HOLY GHOST CHURCH.
YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND!
THAT SCREAMING WITCH DESTROYED THE *ONE THING* ON THIS PLANET THAT MATTERS TO ME!
C'MON, *CLOAK* TAKE IT, EASY!
>OW< BETTER HEED MY OWN ADVICE! THESE *CRACKED RIBS* HURT EVERY TIME I TALK!
"EASY"? YOU WERE HERE, *SPIDER-MAN!* YOU SAW WHAT *SHRIEK* DID...
...TO *DAGGER!**
*WEB #101. --DANNY

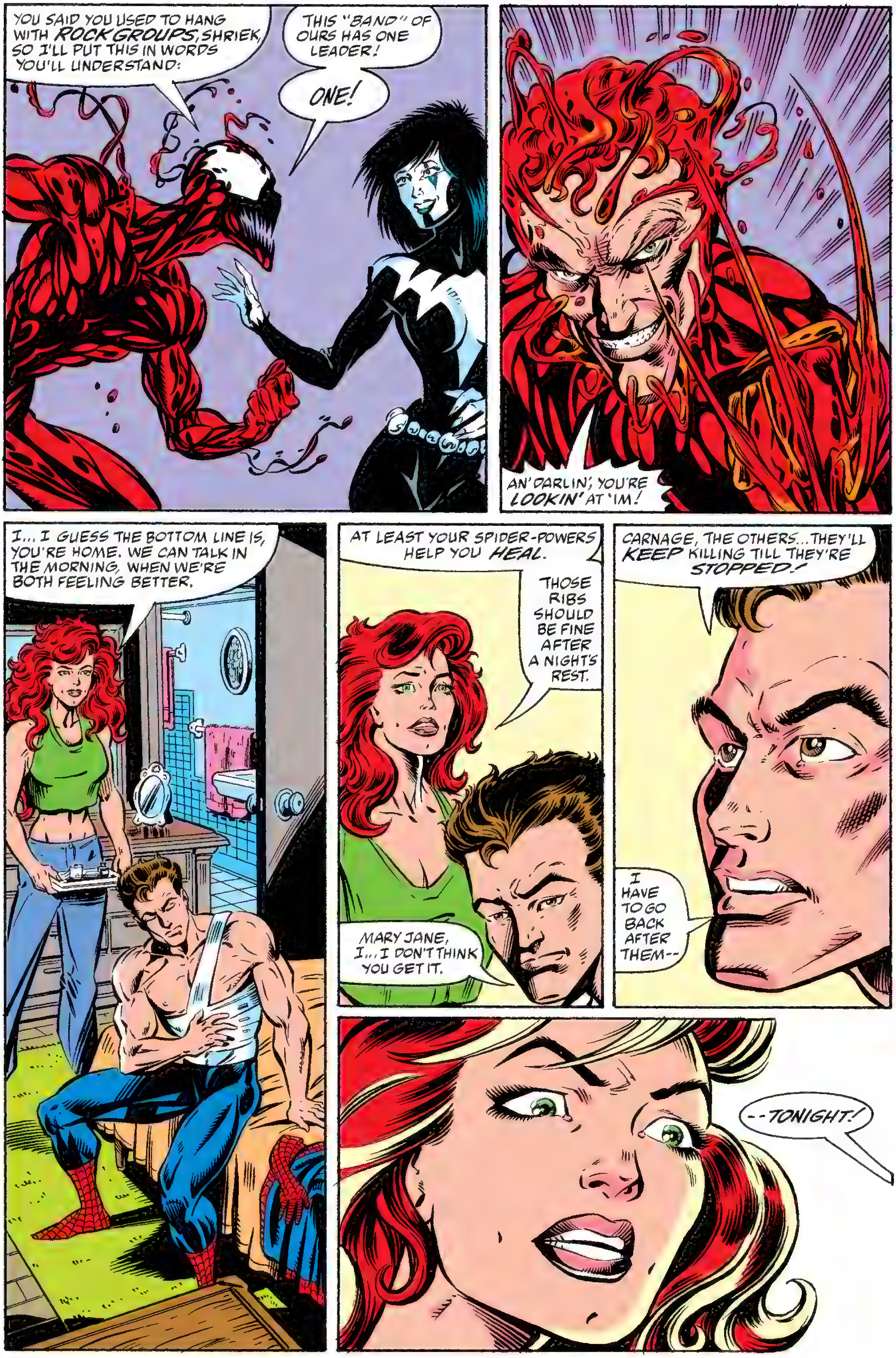

AFTER ALL, THAT GIRL AND I HAVE BEEN THROUGH... TO WATCH HER BURST, JUST DISAPPEAR IN A FLASH OF LIGHT--!
SHE DIDN'T EVEN LEAVE ANYTHING TO BURY!
CALM DOWN, TYRONE--!
YOU CALM DOWN! YOU DIDN'T JUST LOSE FAMILY!
I DON'T WANT MY BLOOD TO COOL...
NOT TILL THE SCUM RESPONSIBLE FOR DAGGER'S DEATH HAS PAID!
GONE? GUESS THAT'S WHAT I GET FOR BLINKING!
THE WAY CLOAK TELEPORTS IN AND OUT IS SOMETHING I'LL NEVER GET USED TO!
BUT I DON'T THINK THAT'S WHAT'S FREAKING ME OUT.
WHAT REALLY DISTURBS ME IS WHAT HE SAID--
--AND HOW CLOSE IT HITS TO HOME!

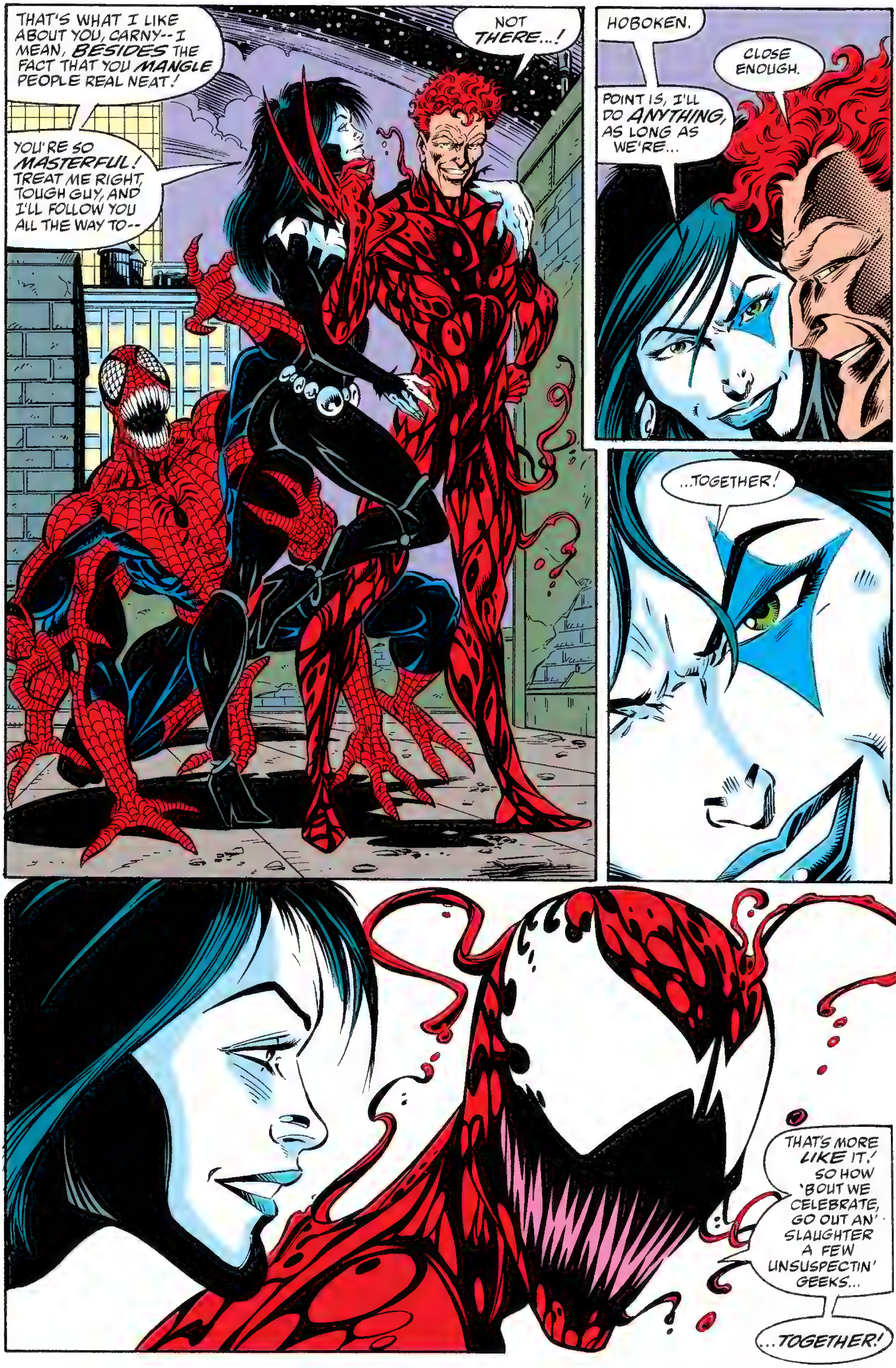

I'VE LOST MY SHARE OF FRIENDS AND FAMILY: UNCLE BEN, GWEN STACY... AND JUST DAYS AGO, HARRY OSBORN!
THEN AGAIN, I THOUGHT MY PARENTS WERE DEAD FOR TWENTY YEARS, AND THEY SHOWED UP ALIVE A FEW WEEKS BACK!
SO MAYBE THERE IS A BALANCE!
>agk< GOTTA WATCH THOSE RIBS--!
AND I'VE GOT TO STOP THINKING ABOUT THE PAST!
EVER SINCE CARNAGE ESCAPED FROM THAT ASYLUM, HE'S BEEN ON A KILLING SPREE! EVEN WORSE--
--HE'S TEAMED UP WITH A SIX-ARMED SPIDEY DOPPLE-GANGER, AND A VERY DANGEROUS WOMAN CALLED SHRIEK!
IF I DON'T KEEP MY MIND ON THE HERE AND NOW--
--I COULD LEARN MORE ABOUT DEATH THAN I REALLY WANT TO!

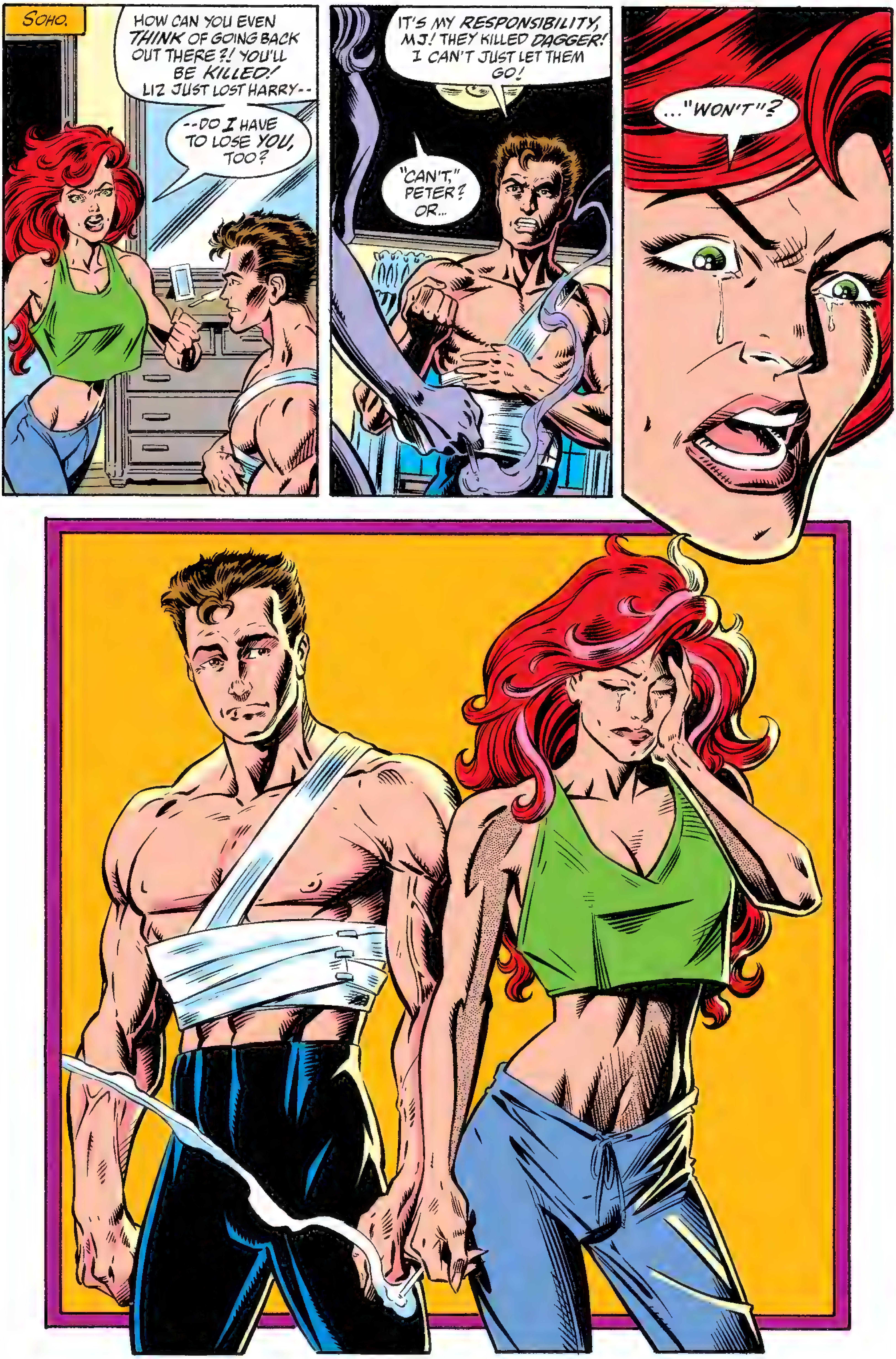

WHILE ON A ROOFTOP HALF-A-CITY AWAY, THE DANGEROUS WOMAN SPIDER-MAN REFERRED TO--
--IS JOINED BY COMPANIONS EVEN MORE DANGEROUS!
EDGY MOVE, SHRIEK! PULLIN' A FADE LIKE THAT--
--AN' GOIN' AFTER SPIDER-MAN ON YOUR OWN!
C'MON, CARNAGE--A KILL'S A KILL! I MEAN, YOU DUST PEOPLE ALL THE TIME!
THAT'S DIFFERENT!
THE WEB-SLINGER'S MINE! EVERY BONE AND SINEW, EVERY DROP OF BLOOD OR BILE...
MINE!

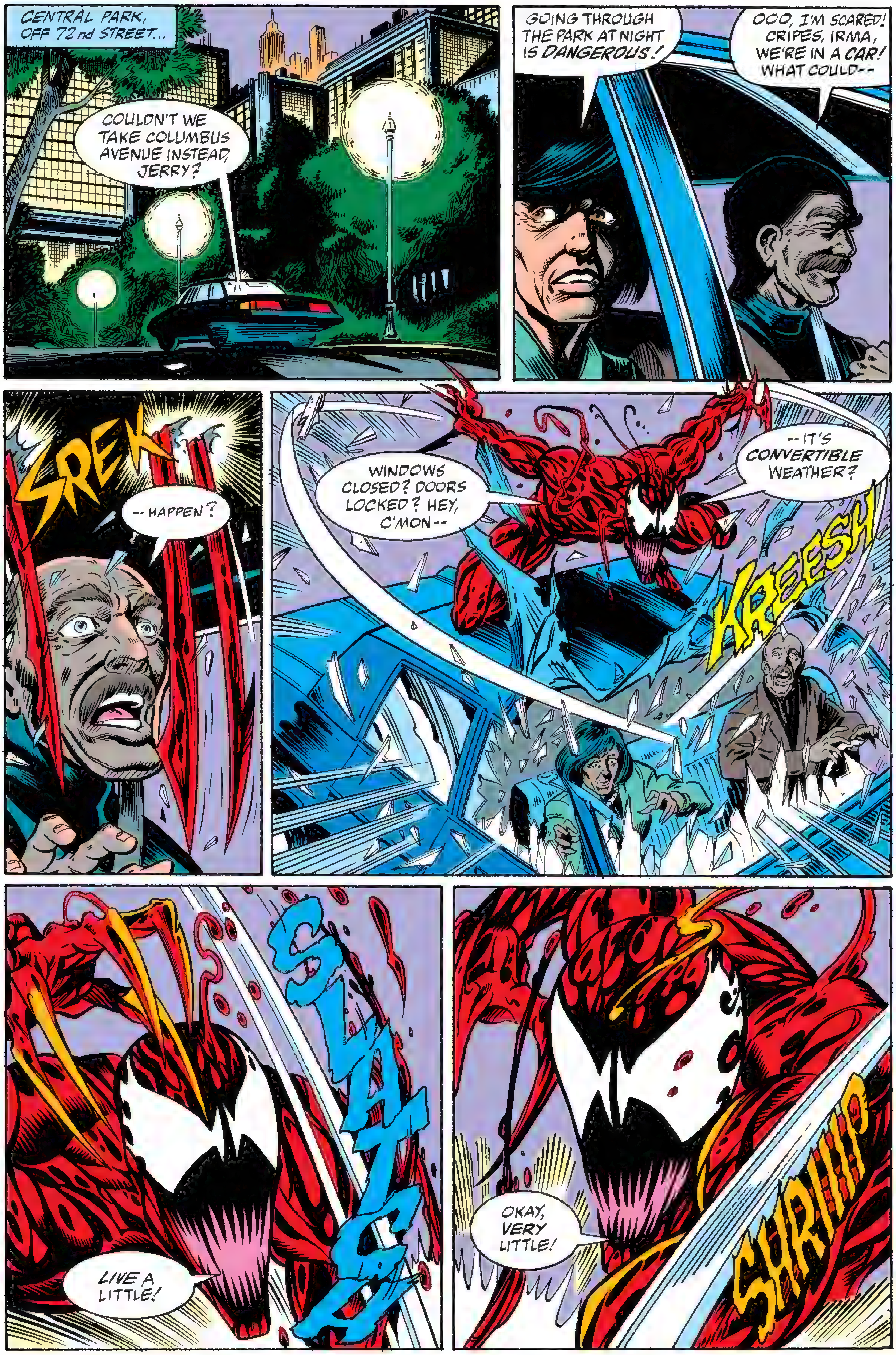

GEEZ, CARNY, I-I JUST THOUGHT--
"THOUGHT"? YOU...
"THOUGHT"?!?
SWEET-CHEEKS, THAT'S A VILE LITTLE HABIT I THINK YOU'D BETTER BREAK!
SOHO, WHERE MARY JANE WATSON-PARKER LIGHTS ANOTHER CIGARETTE. IT'S A VILE, DANGEROUS HABIT, ONE SHE HATES--
--ALMOST AS MUCH AS SHE HATES WAITING FOR HER HUSBAND TO RETURN HOME... OR WONDERING IF HE WILL.
Hngh
PETER?
NO--SPIDER-PETER!
I KNEW IT! WHEN YOU DIDN'T COME BACK WITH OUR TAKE OUT DINNER, I KNEW YOU'D GONE OFF TO--
--PETE? WHY ARE YOU HOLDING YOUR RIBCAGE? DOES IT HURT?
ONLY WHEN I LAUGH...
...cry...
...SWALLOW...
blink

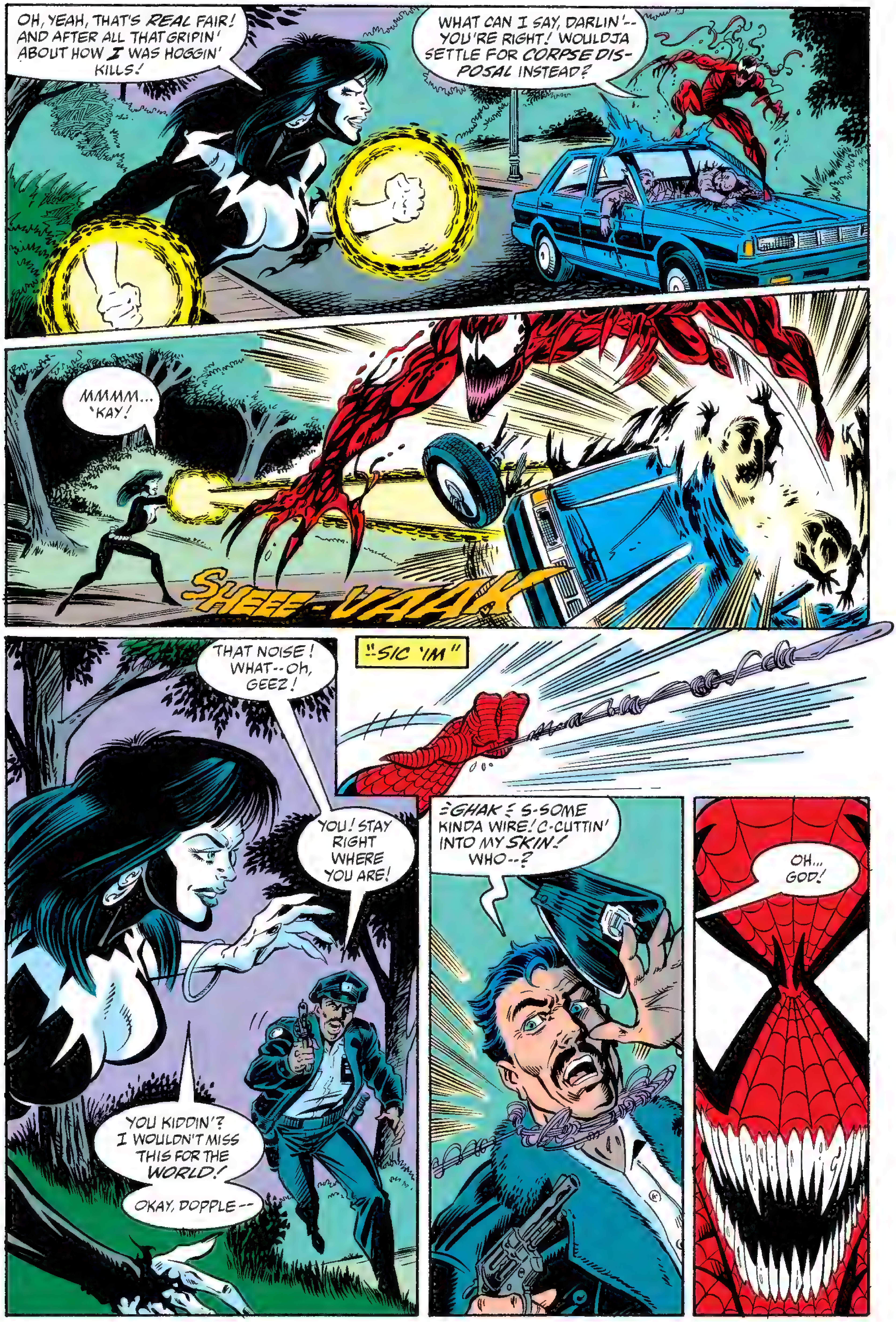

NO JOKES, PETER! YOU *KNOW* HOW I WORRY ABOUT YOU! AND YOU SAID YOU'D *GIVE UP* BEING SPIDER-MAN FOR A COUPLE OF WEEKS!
FOR *BOTH* OUR SAKES.
I SAID I'D *TRY*--!
OH, YEAH? WELL, IT LOOKS LIKE YOU DIDN'T TRY VERY *HARD*... DOESN'T IT?
ACROSS TOWN.
AWW, YOUR PET *DOPPELGANGER'S* FEELING *PROTECTIVE!*
BACK OFF, BUG!
THWAT

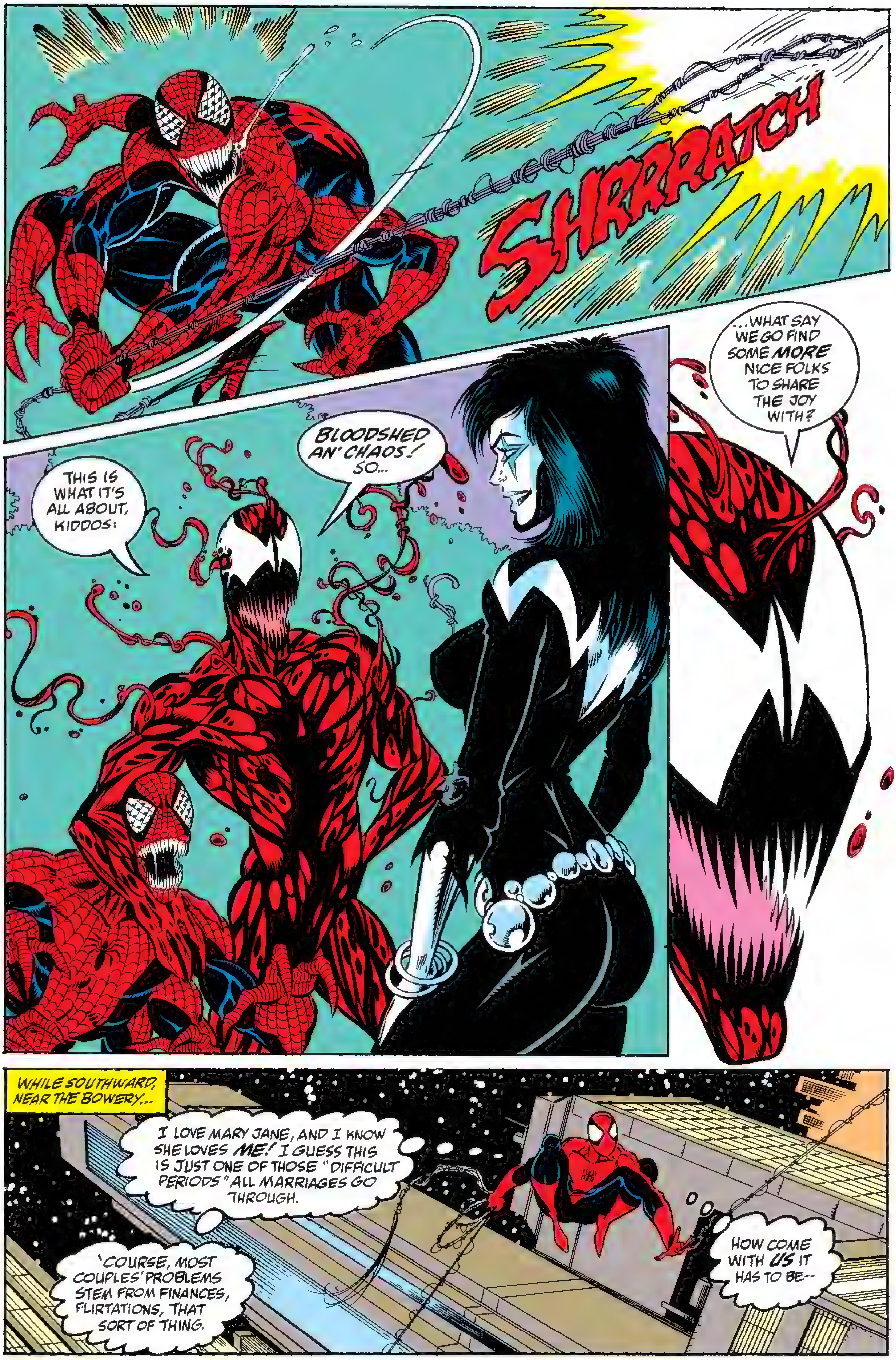

YOU SAID YOU USED TO HANG WITH ROCK GROUPS, SHRIEK, SO I'LL PUT THIS IN WORDS YOU'LL UNDERSTAND:
THIS "BAND" OF OURS HAS ONE LEADER!
ONE!
AN' DARLIN', YOU'RE LOOKIN' AT 'IM!
I... I GUESS THE BOTTOM LINE IS, YOU'RE HOME. WE CAN TALK IN THE MORNING, WHEN WE'RE BOTH FEELING BETTER.
AT LEAST YOUR SPIDER-POWERS HELP YOU HEAL.
THOSE RIBS SHOULD BE FINE AFTER A NIGHT'S REST.
MARY JANE, I... I DON'T THINK YOU GET IT.
CARNAGE, THE OTHERS... THEY'LL KEEP KILLING TILL THEY'RE STOPPED!
I HAVE TO GO BACK AFTER THEM--
--TONIGHT!

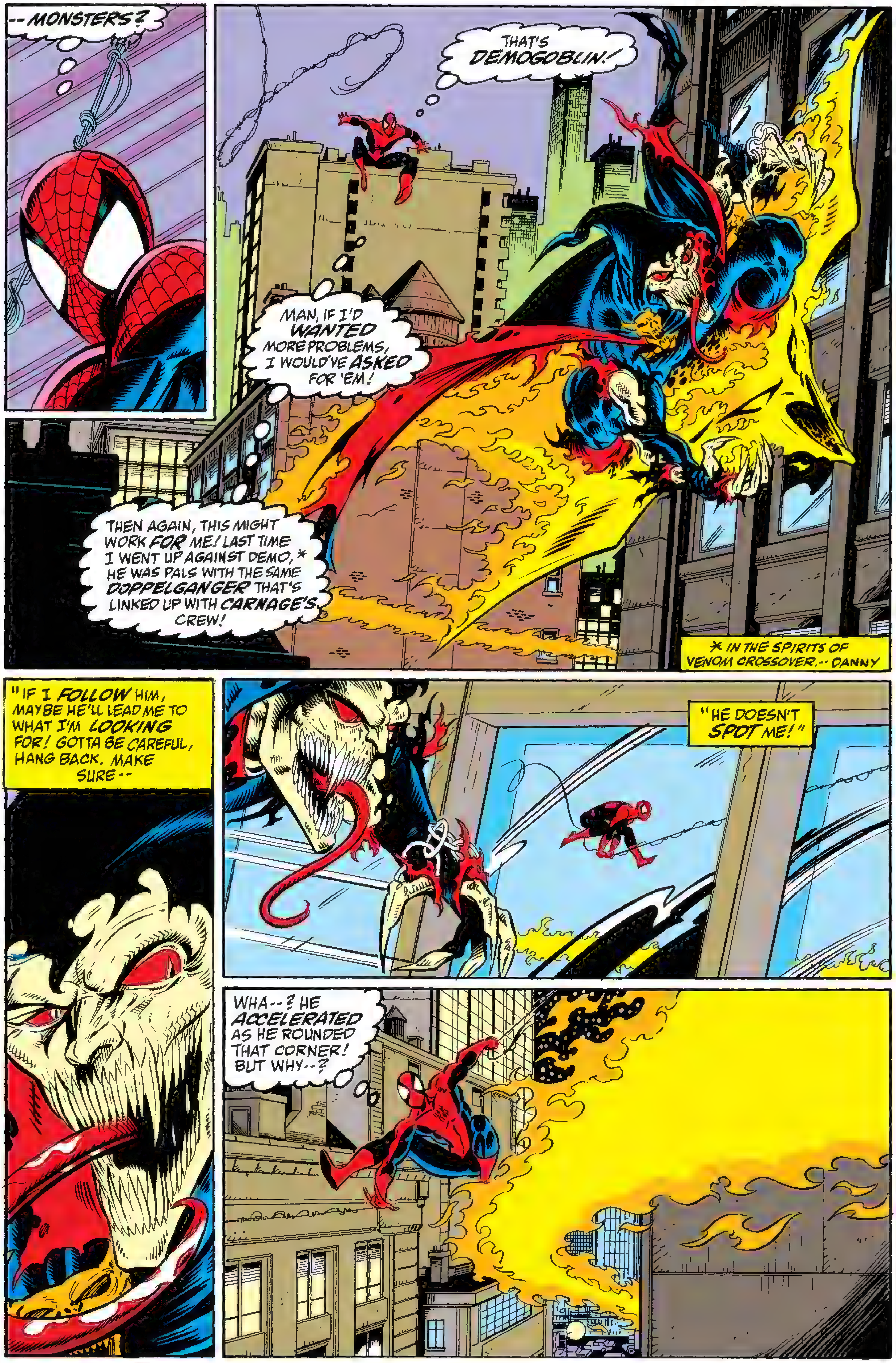

THAT'S WHAT I LIKE ABOUT YOU, CARNY-- I MEAN, *BESIDES* THE FACT THAT YOU *MANGLE* PEOPLE REAL NEAT!
YOU'RE SO *MASTERFUL!* TREAT ME RIGHT, TOUGH GUY, AND I'LL FOLLOW YOU ALL THE WAY TO--
NOT *THERE...!*
HOBOKEN.
CLOSE ENOUGH.
POINT IS, I'LL DO *ANYTHING*, AS LONG AS WE'RE...
...TOGETHER!
THAT'S MORE *LIKE* IT! SO HOW 'BOUT WE CELEBRATE, GO OUT AN' SLAUGHTER A FEW UNSUSPECTIN' GEEKS...
...TOGETHER!

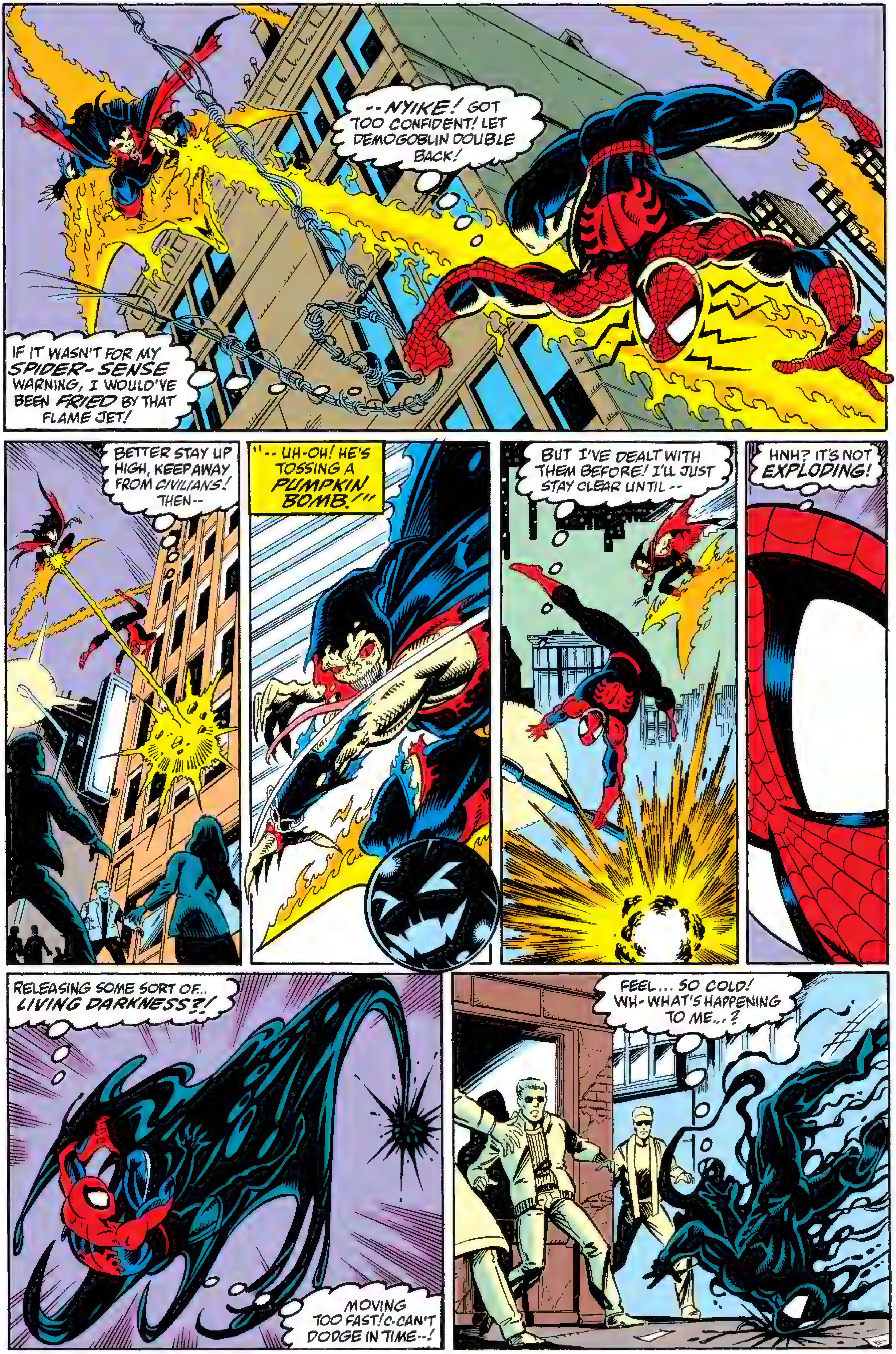

SOHO.
HOW CAN YOU EVEN THINK OF GOING BACK OUT THERE?! YOU'LL BE KILLED! LIZ JUST LOST HARRY--
--DO I HAVE TO LOSE YOU, TOO?
IT'S MY RESPONSIBILITY, MJ! THEY KILLED DAGGER! I CAN'T JUST LET THEM GO!
"CAN'T," PETER? OR...
..."WON'T"?

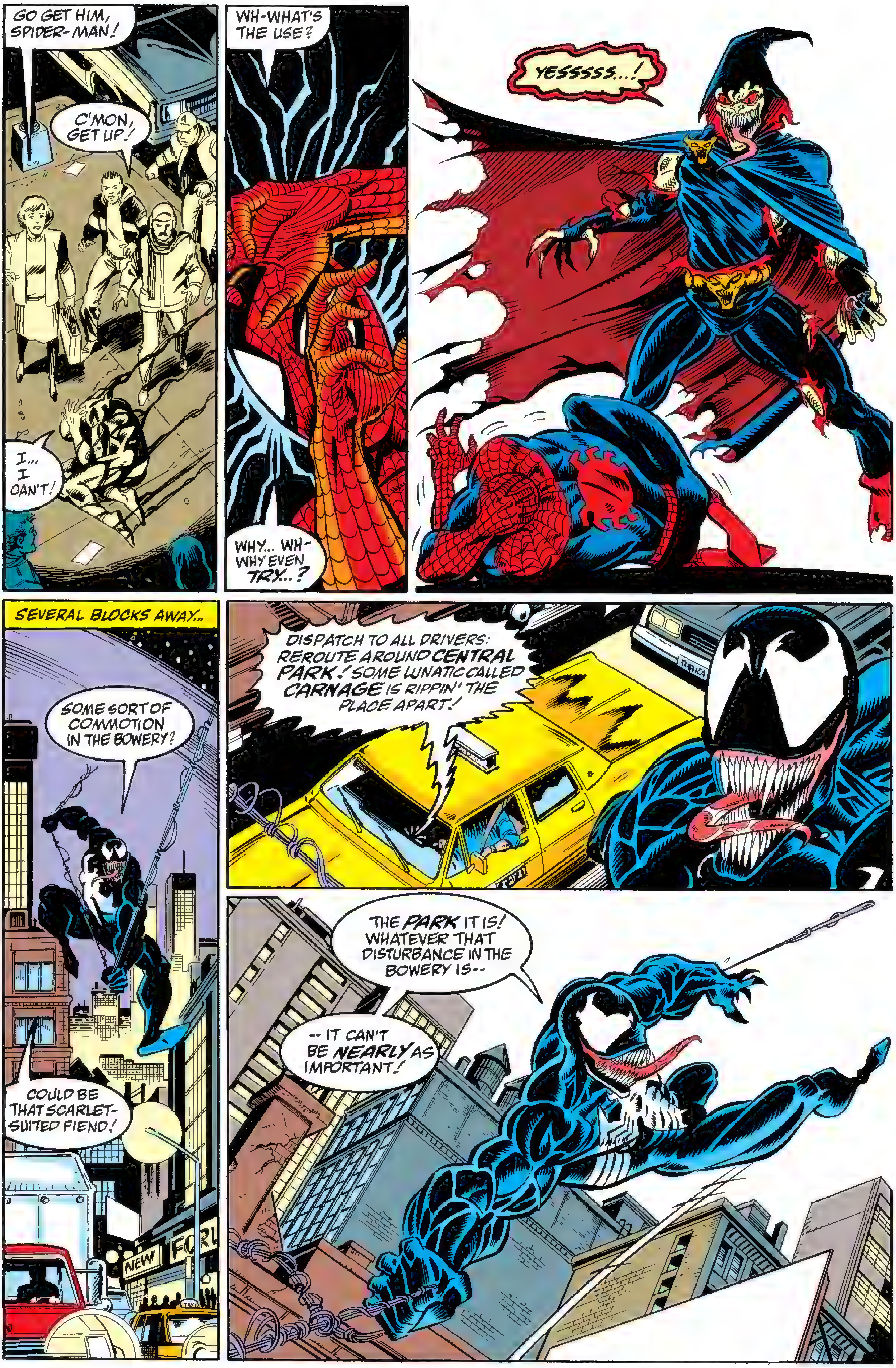

CENTRAL PARK, OFF 72nd STREET...
COULDN'T WE TAKE COLUMBUS AVENUE INSTEAD, JERRY?
GOING THROUGH THE PARK AT NIGHT IS *DANGEROUS!*
OOO, I'M SCARED! CRIPES, IRMA, WE'RE IN A *CAR!* WHAT COULD--
SREK
--HAPPEN?
WINDOWS CLOSED? DOORS LOCKED? HEY, C'MON--
--IT'S CONVERTIBLE WEATHER?
KREESH
SLASH
LIVE A LITTLE!
OKAY, VERY LITTLE!
SHRIIIP

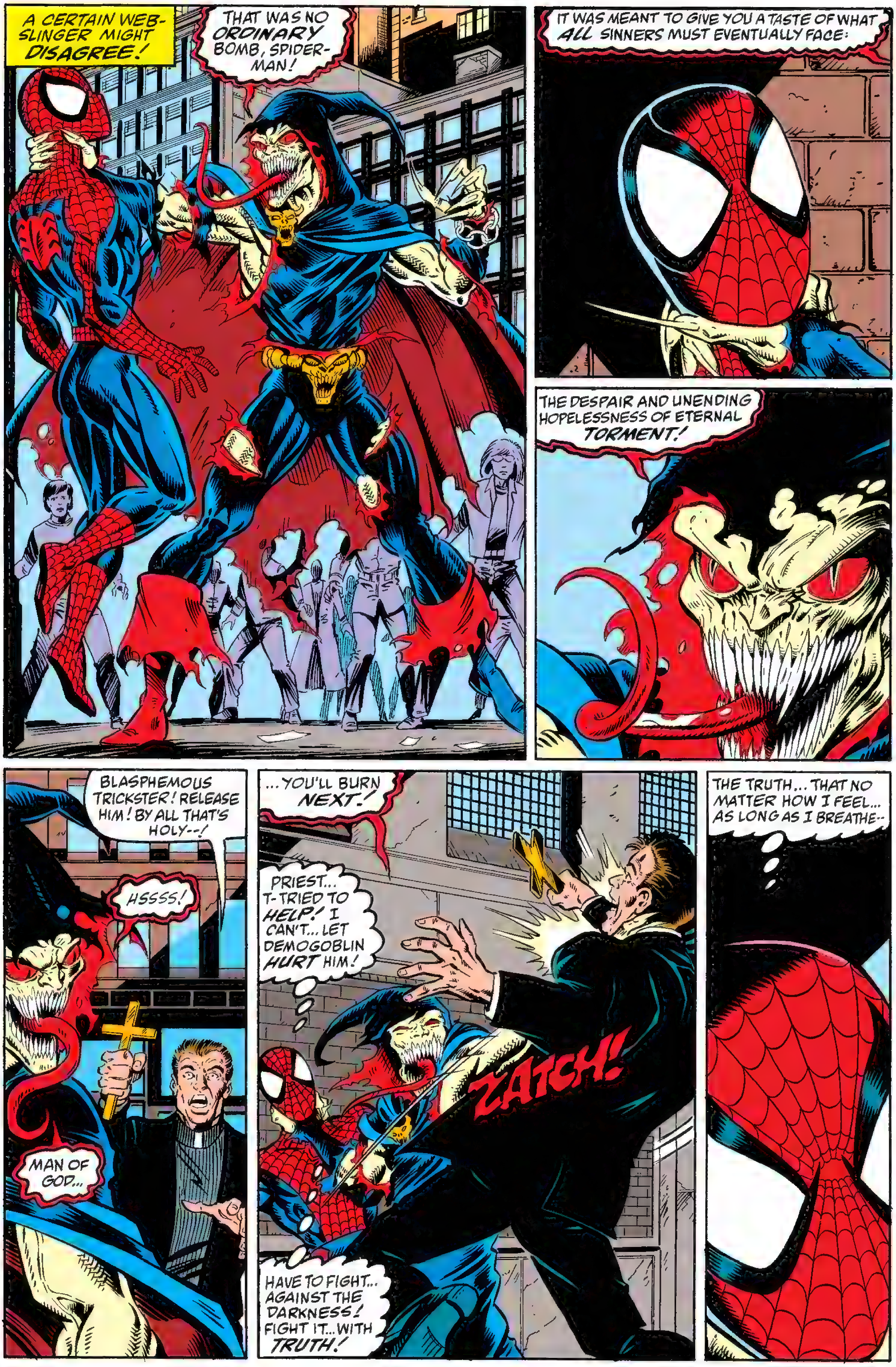

OH, YEAH, THAT'S REAL FAIR! AND AFTER ALL THAT GRIPIN' ABOUT HOW I WAS HOGGIN' KILLS!
WHAT CAN I SAY, DARLIN'-- YOU'RE RIGHT! WOULDJA SETTLE FOR CORPSE DISPOSAL INSTEAD?
MMMM... 'KAY!
SHEEE-VAAK
THAT NOISE! WHAT--Oh, GEEZ!
YOU! STAY RIGHT WHERE YOU ARE!
YOU KIDDIN'? I WOULDN'T MISS THIS FOR THE WORLD!
OKAY, DOPPLE--
--SIC 'IM"
GHAK S-SOME KINDA WIRE! C-CUTTIN' INTO MY SKIN! WHO--?
OH... GOD!

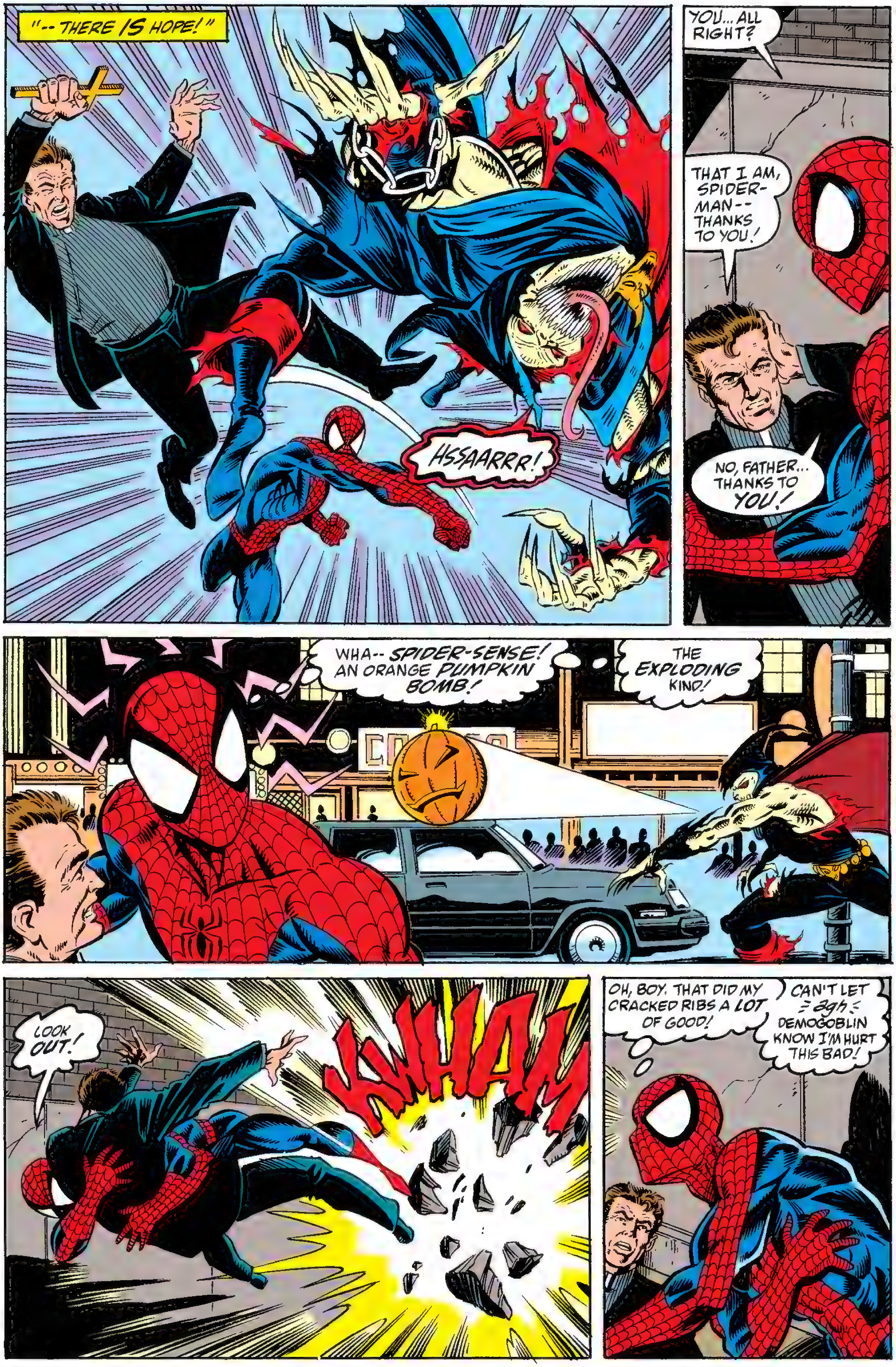

SHRRRATCH
THIS IS WHAT IT'S ALL ABOUT, KIDDOS:
BLOODSHED AN' CHAOS! SO...
...WHAT SAY WE GO FIND SOME *MORE* NICE FOLKS TO SHARE THE JOY WITH?
WHILE SOUTHWARD, NEAR THE BOWERY...
I LOVE MARY JANE, AND I KNOW SHE LOVES *ME!* I GUESS THIS IS JUST ONE OF THOSE "DIFFICULT PERIODS" ALL MARRIAGES GO THROUGH.
'COURSE, MOST COUPLES' PROBLEMS STEM FROM FINANCES, FLIRTATIONS, THAT SORT OF THING.
HOW COME WITH *US* IT HAS TO BE--

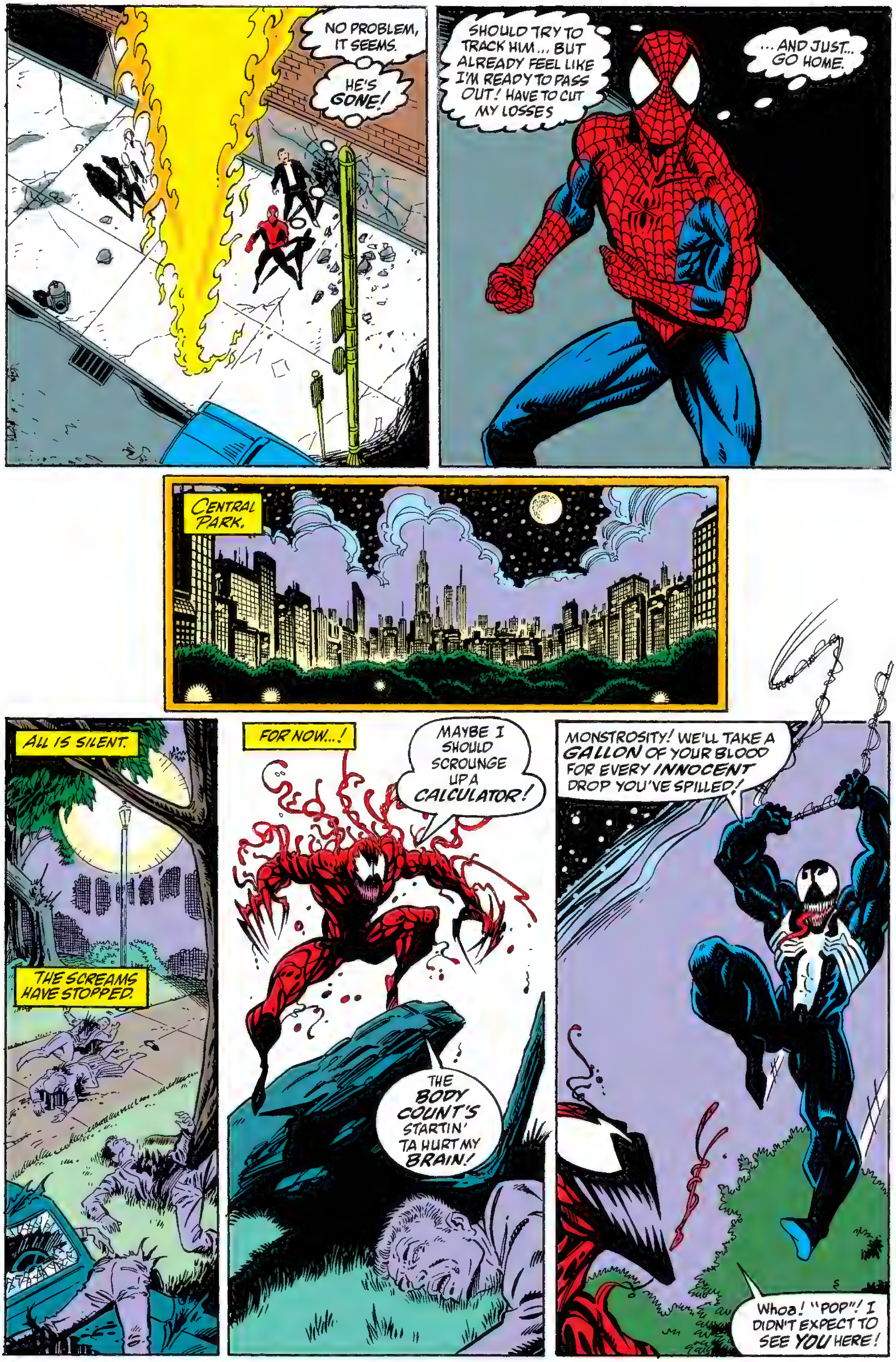

--MONSTERS?
THAT'S DEMOGOBLIN!
MAN, IF I'D WANTED MORE PROBLEMS, I WOULD'VE ASKED FOR 'EM!
THEN AGAIN, THIS MIGHT WORK FOR ME! LAST TIME I WENT UP AGAINST DEMO,* HE WAS PALS WITH THE SAME DOPPELGANGER THAT'S LINKED UP WITH CARNAGE'S CREW!
* IN THE SPIRITS OF VENOM CROSSOVER.--DANNY
"IF I FOLLOW HIM, MAYBE HE'LL LEAD ME TO WHAT I'M LOOKING FOR! GOTTA BE CAREFUL, HANG BACK. MAKE SURE--
"HE DOESN'T SPOT ME!"
WHA--? HE ACCELERATED AS HE ROUNDED THAT CORNER! BUT WHY--?

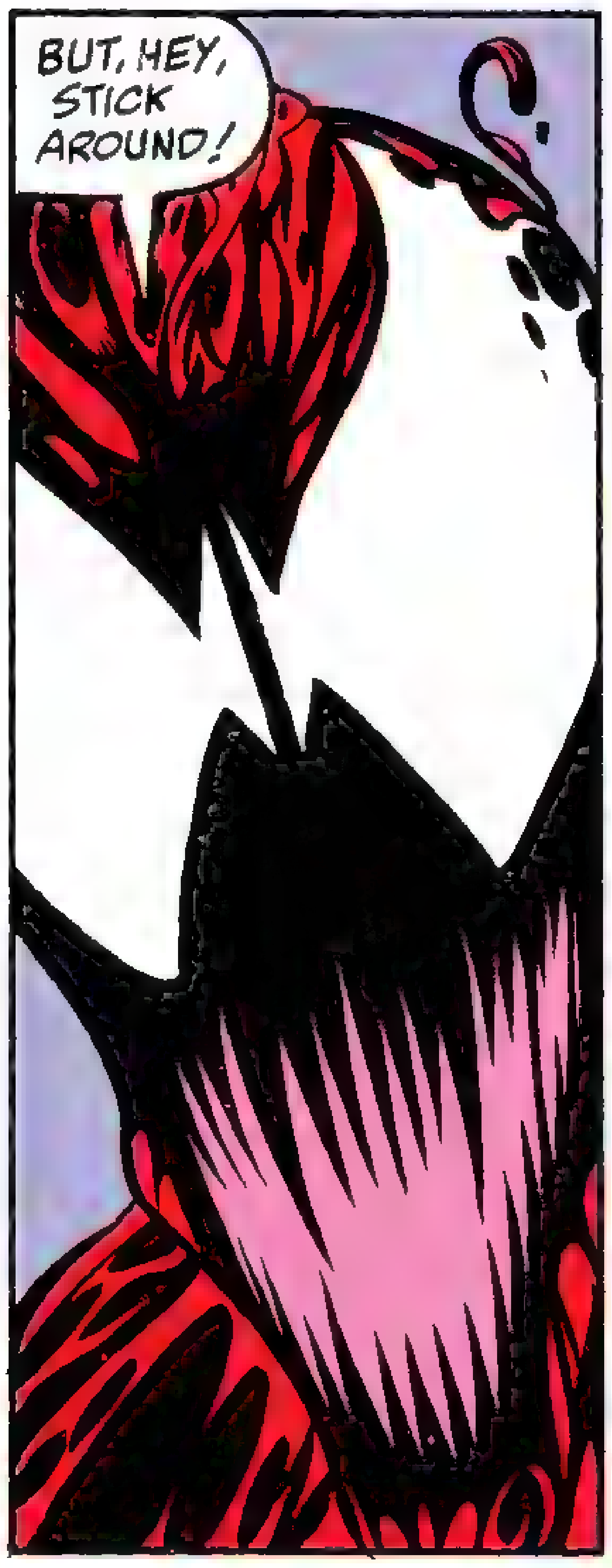

--NYIKE! GOT TOO CONFIDENT! LET DEMOGOBLIN DOUBLE BACK!
IF IT WASN'T FOR MY SPIDER-SENSE WARNING, I WOULD'VE BEEN FRIED BY THAT FLAME JET!
BETTER STAY UP HIGH, KEEP AWAY FROM CIVILIANS! THEN--
"--UH-OH! HE'S TOSSING A PUMPKIN BOMB!"
BUT I'VE DEALT WITH THEM BEFORE! I'LL JUST STAY CLEAR UNTIL--
HNH? IT'S NOT EXPLODING!
RELEASING SOME SORT OF.. LIVING DARKNESS?!
MOVING TOO FAST! C-CAN'T DODGE IN TIME--!
FEEL... SO COLD! WH-WHAT'S HAPPENING TO ME...?

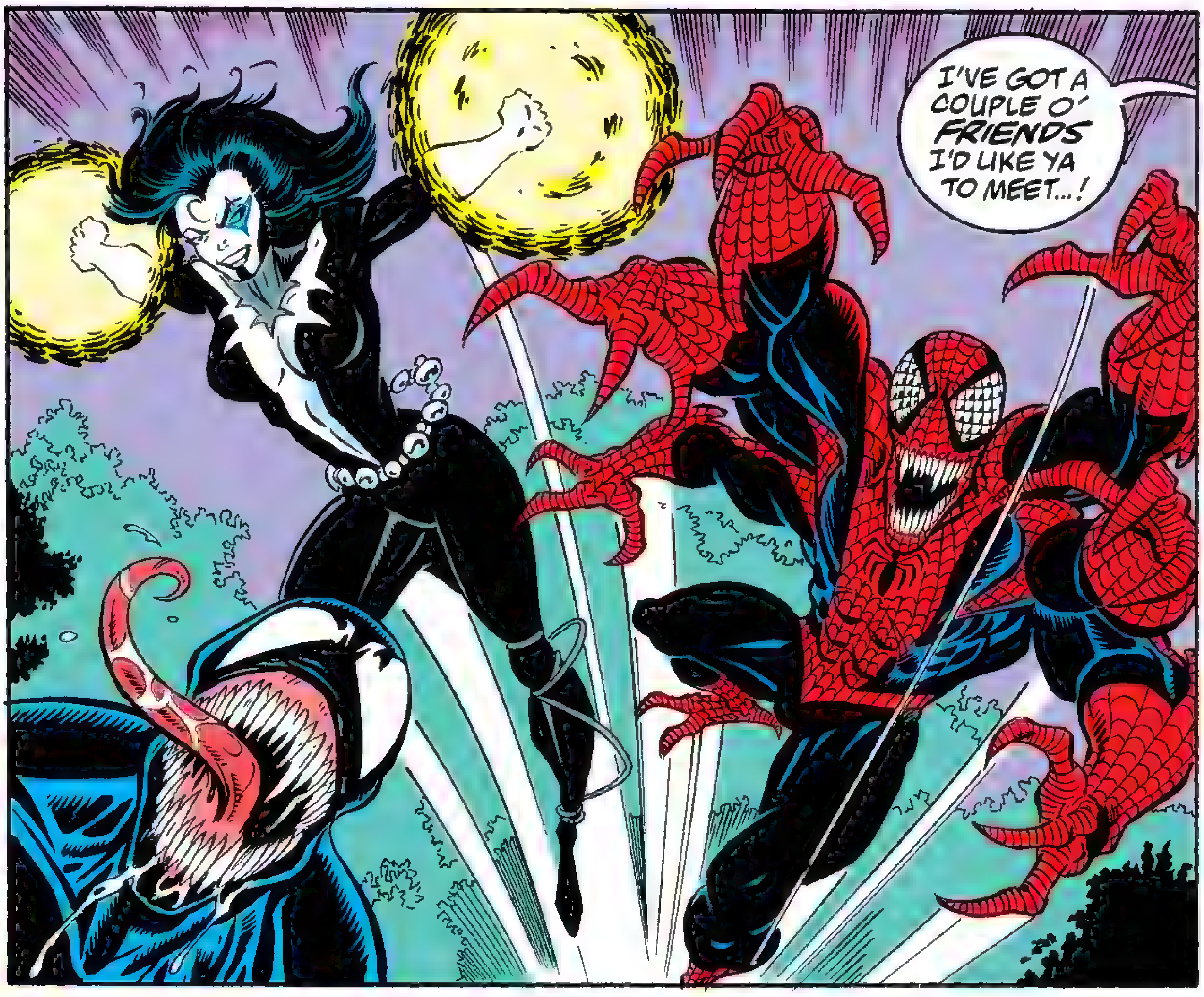

GO GET HIM, SPIDER-MAN!
C'MON, GET UP!
I... I CAN'T!
WH-WHAT'S THE USE?
WHY... WH-WHY EVEN TRY...?
YESSSSS...!
SEVERAL BLOCKS AWAY...
SOME SORT OF COMMOTION IN THE BOWERY?
COULD BE THAT SCARLET-SUITED FIEND!
DISPATCH TO ALL DRIVERS: REROUTE AROUND CENTRAL PARK! SOME LUNATIC CALLED CARNAGE IS RIPPIN' THE PLACE APART!
THE PARK IT IS! WHATEVER THAT DISTURBANCE IN THE BOWERY IS--
-- IT CAN'T BE NEARLY AS IMPORTANT!

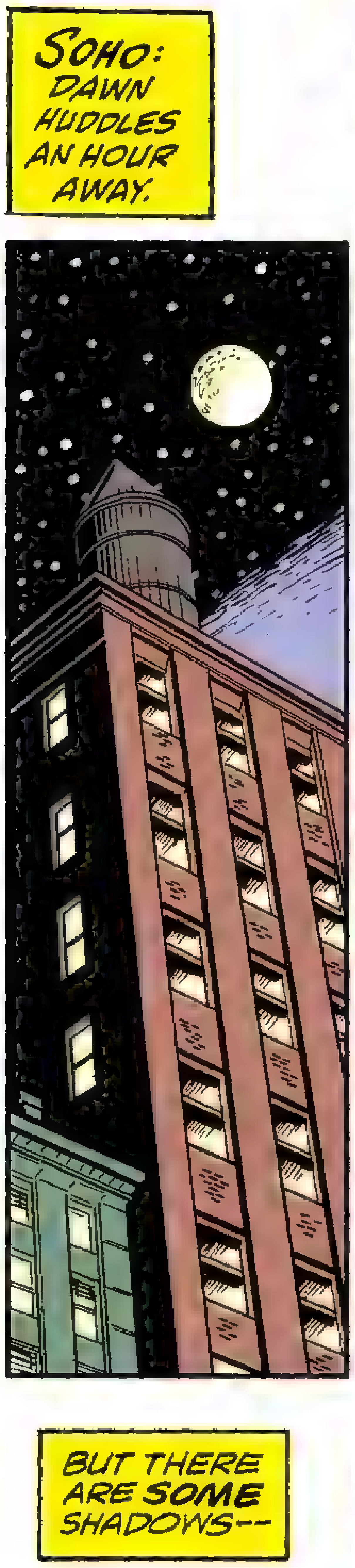

A CERTAIN WEB-SLINGER MIGHT DISAGREE!
THAT WAS NO ORDINARY BOMB, SPIDER-MAN!
IT WAS MEANT TO GIVE YOU A TASTE OF WHAT ALL SINNERS MUST EVENTUALLY FACE:
THE DESPAIR AND UNENDING HOPELESSNESS OF ETERNAL TORMENT!
BLASPHEMOUS TRICKSTER! RELEASE HIM! BY ALL THAT'S HOLY--!
HSSSS!
MAN OF GOD...
...YOU'LL BURN NEXT!
PRIEST... T-TRIED TO HELP! I CAN'T... LET DEMOGOBLIN HURT HIM!
ZATCH!
HAVE TO FIGHT... AGAINST THE DARKNESS! FIGHT IT... WITH TRUTH!
THE TRUTH... THAT NO MATTER HOW I FEEL... AS LONG AS I BREATHE--

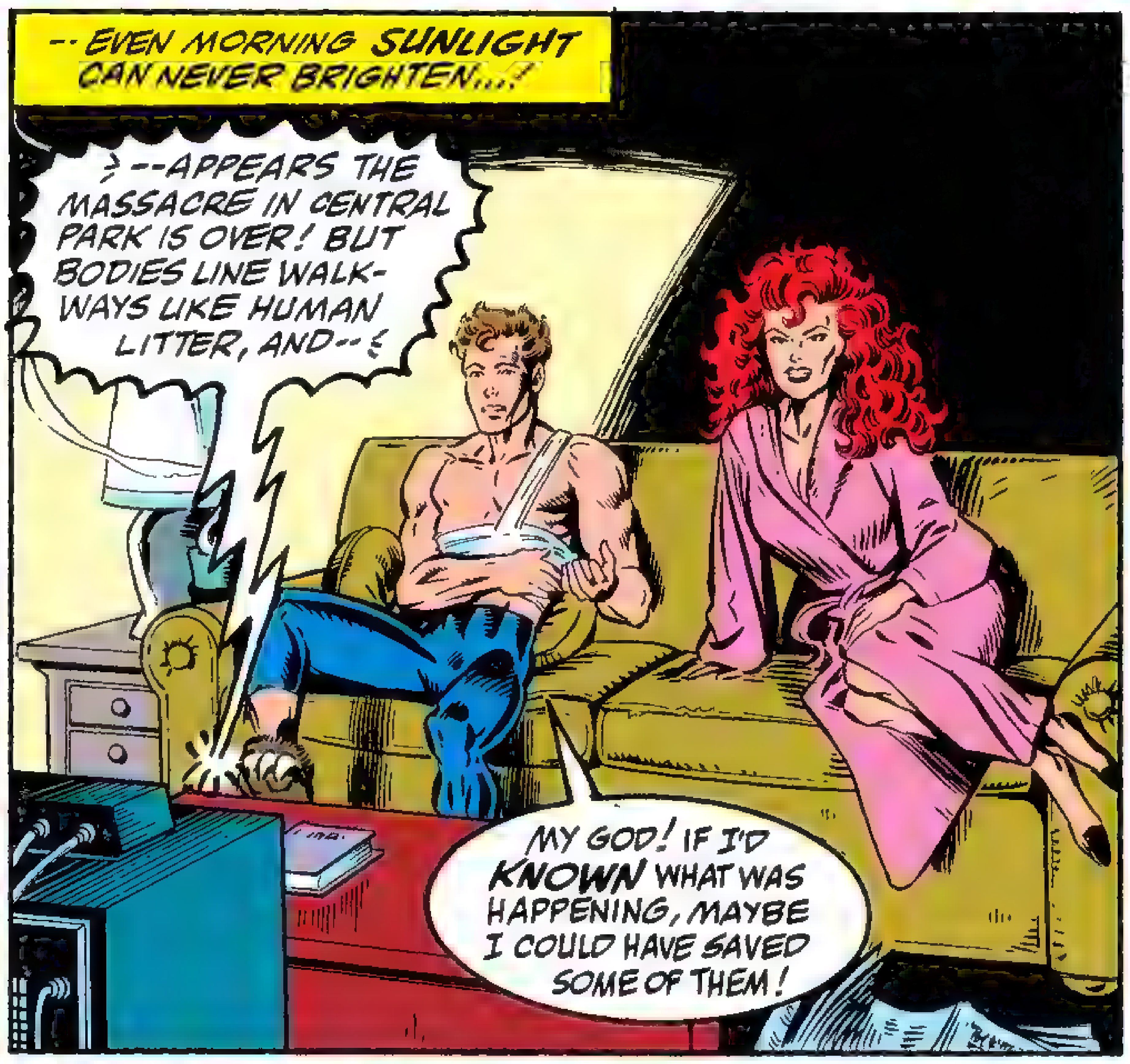

"-- THERE IS HOPE!"
HSSAARRR!
YOU... ALL RIGHT?
THAT I AM, SPIDER-MAN-- THANKS TO YOU!
NO, FATHER... THANKS TO YOU!
WHA-- SPIDER-SENSE! AN ORANGE PUMPKIN BOMB!
THE EXPLODING KIND!
LOOK OUT!
WHAM
OH, BOY. THAT DID MY CRACKED RIBS A LOT OF GOOD!
CAN'T LET =agh= DEMOGOBLIN KNOW I'M HURT THIS BAD!

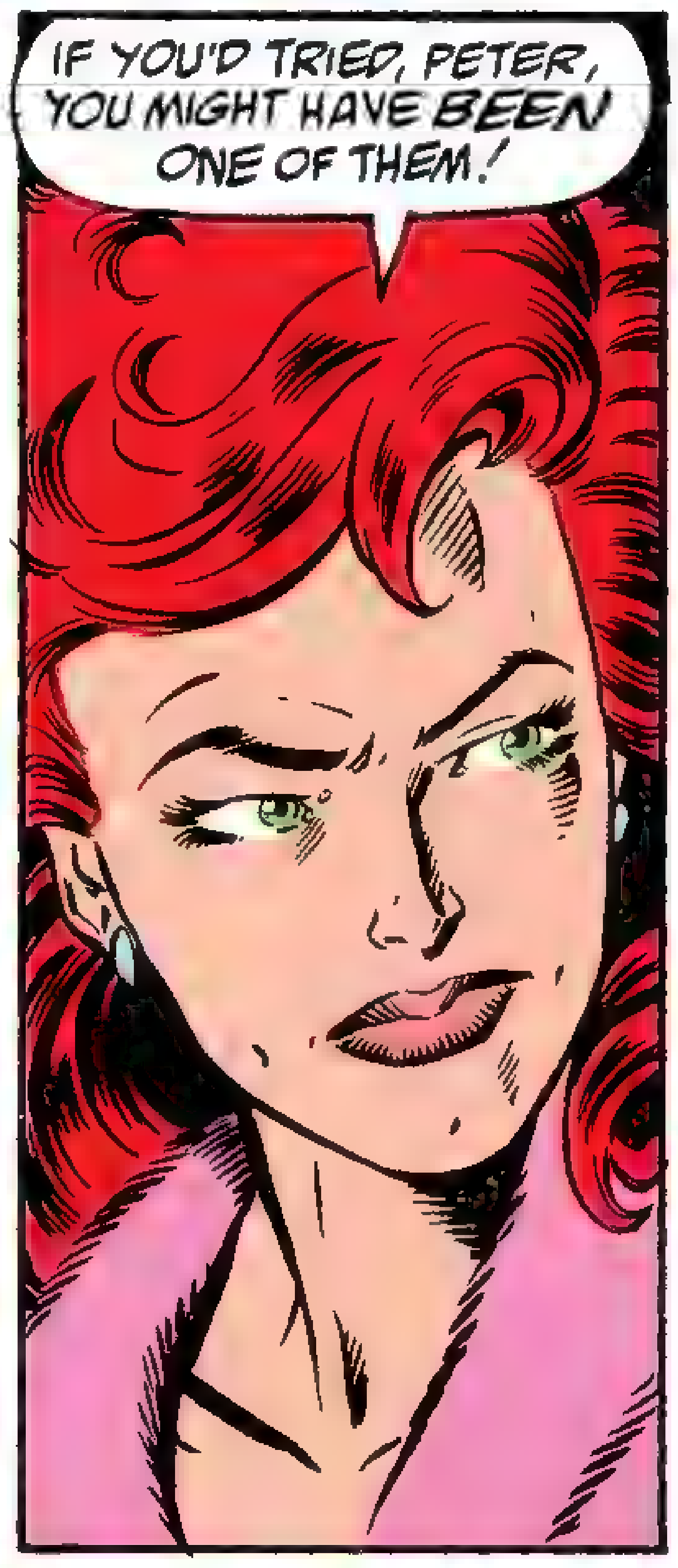

NO PROBLEM, IT SEEMS.
HE'S GONE!
SHOULD TRY TO TRACK HIM... BUT ALREADY FEEL LIKE I'M READY TO PASS OUT! HAVE TO CUT MY LOSSES
...AND JUST... GO HOME.
CENTRAL PARK.
ALL IS SILENT.
THE SCREAMS HAVE STOPPED.
FOR NOW...!
MAYBE I SHOULD SCROUNGE UP A CALCULATOR!
THE BODY COUNT'S STARTIN' TA HURT MY BRAIN!
MONSTROSITY! WE'LL TAKE A GALLON OF YOUR BLOOD FOR EVERY INNOCENT DROP YOU'VE SPILLED!
Whoa! "POP"! I DIDN'T EXPECT TO SEE YOU HERE!

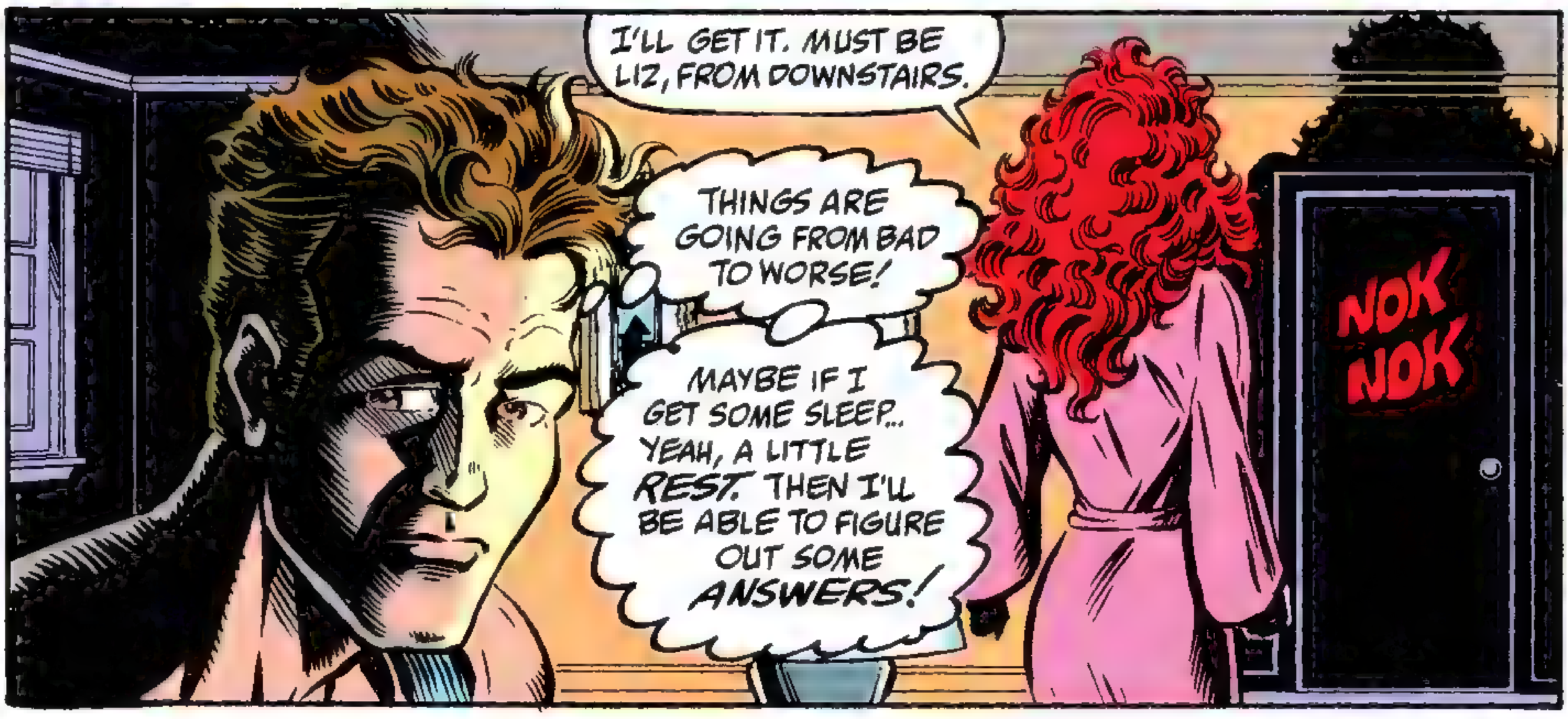

BUT, HEY, STICK AROUND!

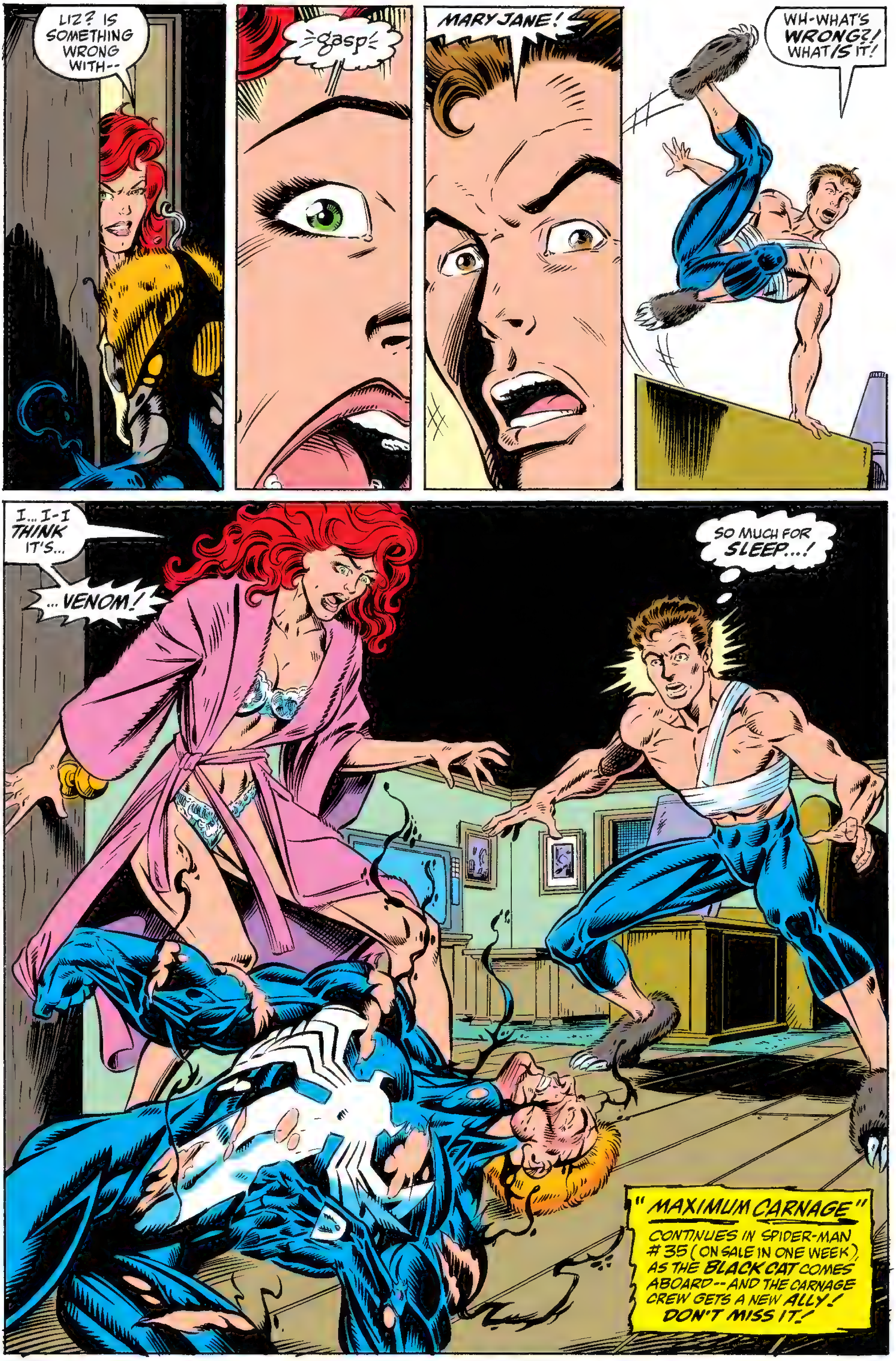

I'VE GOT A COUPLE O' FRIENDS I'D LIKE YA TO MEET...!


SOHO: DAWN HUDDLES AN HOUR AWAY.
BUT THERE ARE SOME SHADOWS--


--EVEN MORNING SUNLIGHT CAN NEVER BRIGHTEN...!
--APPEARS THE MASSACRE IN CENTRAL PARK IS OVER! BUT BODIES LINE WALKWAYS LIKE HUMAN LITTER, AND--
MY GOD! IF I'D KNOWN WHAT WAS HAPPENING, MAYBE I COULD HAVE SAVED SOME OF THEM!


IF YOU'D TRIED, PETER, YOU MIGHT HAVE BEEN ONE OF THEM!


I'LL GET IT. MUST BE LIZ, FROM DOWNSTAIRS.
THINGS ARE GOING FROM BAD TO WORSE!
MAYBE IF I GET SOME SLEEP... YEAH, A LITTLE REST. THEN I'LL BE ABLE TO FIGURE OUT SOME ANSWERS!
NOK NOK


LIZ? IS SOMETHING WRONG WITH--
gasp
MARY JANE!
WH-WHAT'S WRONG?! WHAT IS IT!
I... I-I THINK IT'S...
...VENOM!
SO MUCH FOR SLEEP...!
"MAXIMUM CARNAGE" CONTINUES IN SPIDER-MAN #35 (ON SALE IN ONE WEEK) AS THE BLACK CAT COMES ABOARD-- AND THE CARNAGE CREW GETS A NEW ALLY! DON'T MISS IT!

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MAXIMUM CARNAGE
PART 4 OF 14
SPIDER-MAN
VENOM! CARNAGE! DEMOGOBLIN! SHRIEK! DOPPLEGANGER!
Tom Lyle 1992
30 YEARS
X-MEN
1963-1993

TEAM VENOM
MAXIMUM CARNAGE, CHAPTER FOUR
C'MON IN, GANG! BE IT EVER SO CRUMBLED--
--THERE'S NO PLACE LIKE HOME!
DAVID MICHELINIE WRITER
TOM LYLE PENCILER
SCOTT HANNA INKER
RICK PARKER LETTERS
TINSLEY +MORAN COLORS
DANNY FINGEROTH EDITOR
TOM DEFALCO EDITOR IN CHIEF

[redacted]

YA LIKE IT, *CARNAGE?* THIS'S WHERE THEY STORE *STAGE PROPS* FOR ROCK SHOWS! I LEARNED ABOUT IT BACK WHEN I WAS A *GROUPIE!*
I *LOVE* IT, SHRIEK! BUT YOU CAN HAVE YOUR PET *DOPPELGANGER* DROP THOSE GUARDS NOW.
SOUVENIRS WE DON'T NEED!
YA DONE GOOD, BABE...
...I'VE ALWAYS BUZZED ON HEAVY METAL! IT'S ALL ABOUT CHAOS--AN' CHAOS IS THE *FUTURE!*
LAWS ARE ONLY WORDS! YOU CAN DO ANYTHING YA WANT-- *ANYTHING* --AS LONG AS YA'VE GOT THE *GUTS* TA MAKE IT HAPPEN!
THAT'S A LITTLE LESSON WE'RE GONNA TEACH THE *WORLD*--
--TOGETHER!
SOUNDS GREAT, CARNY! JUST ONE THING:
I THINK I'M GONNA BE *SICK*. SOMETHIN' SMELLS LIKE--
--*SULPHUR!*

SOHO: THE HOME OF MARY JANE AND PETER PARKER.
GET THAT THING OUT OF MY HOUSE!
HE'S HURT, MJ! BUT... WHAT COULD BATTER EDDIE BROCK LIKE THIS?
"EDDIE"? WHY DON'T YOU CALL HIM WHAT HE IS:
VENOM, THE HOMICIDAL MANIAC WHO LIFE GOAL IS TO KILL YOU!
HE'S IN NO SHAPE TO KILL ANYONE! I SWEAR--
BLAST IT PETER, YOU CAN'T EVEN KEEP YOUR PROMISE TO STOP BEING SPIDER-MAN FOR FIVE MINUTES!
IT'S BAD ENOUGH WAITING FOR SOMEONE TO KILL YOU ON THE STREET--
-- I WON'T WATCH IT HAPPEN IN MY OWN HOME!
B-BUT, SWEET-HEART--!

Uh-Oh! LIZ OSBORN!
WHAT IF SHE HEARD--?
OH! YOU STARTLED ME, MARY JANE!
GUESS MY MIND WAS WANDERING.
whew
WISH I COULD CHAT, BUT I HAVE TO GO SIGN SOME PAPERS. ABOUT, YOU KNOW... HARRY'S ESTATE.
MAYBE LATER...?
LORD, HERE I AM WORRIED ABOUT KEEPING PETER'S SECRET IDENTITY, WHEN LIZ IS LIVING MY WORST NIGHT-MARE!
HER HUSBAND, HARRY, WAS KILLED BARELY A WEEK AGO!
MAN, I REALLY NEED SOMEONE TO TALK TO, TO BE WITH. BUT WITHOUT PETER, MY NEAREST RELATIVE IS ALL THE WAY OUT IN PITTSBURGH!
WHERE DO I TURN NOW?

DO YOU THINK WE WANTED TO COME HERE, TO SEEK ALLIANCE WITH THE MAN WE DESPISE MOST IN THE WORLD? WE HAD NO CHOICE!
CARNAGE IS BACK!
I KNOW! BUT HOW? CLETUS KASADY USED A SPAWN OF YOUR OWN LIVING COSTUME TO TURN INTO CARNAGE--
--BUT WE DESTROYED THAT SPAWN AT MADISON SQUARE GARDEN!*
*IN AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #363.--Danny
AND IF THE ALIEN HAD SURVIVED, MY "OTHER" WOULD SENSE IT!
NO, IN SOME MANNER WE DON'T YET UNDERSTAND--
--KASADY HAS FOUND ANOTHER WAY TO BECOME CARNAGE!
SILLY ME.
I THOUGHT THINGS COULDN'T GET WORSE...!
WE'LL REST, HEAL OUR WOUNDS. WHEN THAT'S DONE, AND WE'RE WHOLE AGAIN--
--WE'LL FIND AND STOP CARNAGE!
WELL, I GUESS IF--
--HEY! WAIT A MINUTE!
"WE"?!

YOU MEAN, YOU AND YOUR SYMBIOTE COSTUME-- OR YOU AND ME? EDDIE?
EDDIE!
I CAN'T HELP HIM! HE'S A PSYCHOTIC MURDERER! I SHOULD WEB HIM UP AND CALL THE VAULT. *
THEN AGAIN, HE MAY ALSO BE THE BEST BET FOR NAILING CARNAGE!
* PRISON FOR SUPER VILLAINS.--D.
BLAST! NOT ONLY DO THINGS NOT GET BETTER, THEY DON'T GET SIMPLER, EITHER!
I HAVE TO GET OUT OF HERE! AT LEAST VENOM WON'T DO ANY HARM WHILE HE'S SLEEPING!
OKAY, I'M OUT--NOW WHAT?
I'VE GOTTEN SO USED TO LEANING ON MARY JANE, TO CONFIDING IN HER! BUT EVEN IF SHE WASN'T TOO ANGRY TO LISTEN--
--I DON'T KNOW WHERE SHE IS! AND WHO ELSE COULD UNDERSTAND THIS KIND OF PROBLEM? WITHOUT M.J.--
--WHERE DO I TURN?

MOMENTS LATER--
--IN FELICIA HARDY'S SUN-BRIGHTENED BEDROOM...
YAWUM
THAT FELT GOOD! MAYBE I'LL JUST LIE BACK AND SLEEP ANOTHER TEN HOURS...!
ahem
CAN WE TALK?
GEEZ, SPIDER, YOU JUST SCARED ME OUT OF AT LEAST EIGHT LIVES!
NONETHELESS, A SHORT WHILE LATER...
SO THAT'S IT. AS THE BLACK CAT, YOU'VE DEALT WITH YOUR SHARE OF SUPER-POWERED NUTCASES! SO--
MEMO
--WHAT'S YOUR ADVICE?
NO CONTEST.
WE HAVE TO HELP VENOM STOP CARNAGE!
AGAIN? AGAIN WITH THE "WE"?!

WHILE IN FOREST HILLS, AT THE HOME OF MAY PARKER...
PETER USED TO EAT TWO HELPINGS OF EVERYTHING WHEN HE LIVED HERE!
OUR SON WAS A GROWING TEENAGER, MAY!
NOK NOK
I'LL GET--OH! MARY JANE!
HOPE IT'S NOT TOO EARLY, MAY. I JUST FELT LIKE DROPPING IN ON..... FAMILY.
YOU'RE ALWAYS WELCOME, DEAR! COME IN!
MORNING, MARY, RICHARD.
SIT HERE, M J.
I'VE BEEN MEANING TO CALL AND ASK ABOUT LIZ OSBORN, MARY JANE.
YES, IT MUST BE AWFUL, LOSING A HUSBAND LIKE THAT. HE WAS SO YOUNG, SO LOVED!
WHICH REMINDS ME--
--HOW'S PETER?

NEAR THE WATERFRONT...
SO, WHAT TO HIT NEXT? THERE'RE SO MANY *TARGETS*...!
A PROBLEM I, MYSELF, *SHARE!*
BUT BY FOLLOWING THE PSYCHIC LINK TO MY EX-PARTNER, THE *DOPPELGANGER*--
--I'VE FOUND MY *NEXT* VICTIMS!
DEMOGOBLIN!
I READ ABOUT THIS GUY IN THE INSTITUTION!
BUT ONE OF MY *SOUND BLASTS* WILL--
--DO NOTHING BUT MAKE *NOISE!*
WHILE MY *PUMPKIN BOMB* WILL GIVE YOU A TASTE OF *HADES!*
DOPPEL! GIMME A HAND!
HUH? HE'S JUST *SITTIN'* THERE?

MUST BE CONFUSED! WONDERIN' WHETHER TO HELP ME OR TH' GOBLIN!
I *HATE* WISHY-WASHY!
NO PROBLEMO, HONEYLIPS!
I'LL JUST LASSO THAT HALLOWEEN *WANNABE* WITH SOME COSTUME TENDRILS, AND--
--FEEL THE PAIN OF *HELL-FIRE!* AND THAT'S JUST THE BEGINNING!
WHEN YOU AND YOUR FOUL COMPANIONS LIE IN PIECES, I'LL FIND *OTHERS* TO PUNISH!
UNTIL EVERY SINNER IN THIS WORLD IS NOTHING BUT BONE AND ASH!
YA WANNA *KILL* PEOPLE? CRIPES, BEELZEBUB! WHY DIDN'T YA *SAY* SO? ALL YA GOTTA DO IS--
--*JOIN US!*

IT'S NOT THAT CUT AND DRIED, FELICIA!
THE WORLD ISN'T BLACK AND WHITE!
SURE, I KNOW CARNAGE HAS TO BE STOPPED--
--BUT PARTNERING UP WITH VENOM MEANS CONDONING HIS RUTHLESS METHODS!
AND THAT CAN'T BE RIGHT!
SOMETIMES YOU HAVE TO STROKE THE DEVIL TO SAVE THE RIGHTEOUS.
YOU COMING?
I...I DON'T...
THERE'S AN OLD SAYING, SPIDER: "IF YOU'RE NOT PART OF THE SOLUTION, YOU'RE PART OF THE PROBLEM!"
THINK ABOUT IT.

THAT'S RIGHT, GOBBY! WE'RE GONNA ROCK THE WORLD, BURY IT IN BODY PARTS! AN' WE DON'T CARE *WHO* GETS SHREDDED ON THE WAY!
SO WHY DON'TCHA COME ALONG? WE'LL HELP YA SMOKE SOME *SINNERS*!
HMMM, COLLABORATION *MIGHT* EXPEDITE MY QUEST, AT THAT.
VERY WELL... I *ACCEPT*!
HOW CAN YOU *TRUST* HIM--?
I *DON'T*!
I KNOW HE'LL CROSS US EVENTUALLY!
BUT *UNTIL* THEN, THINK OF WHAT A DANDY LITTLE *BLOOD-LETTER* HE'LL MAKE!

SOHO.
GOOD. OUR STRENGTH HAS RETURNED!
AND IT'S NOT THE ONLY THING, GRUESOME!
YOU!
BLACK CAT!
COME TO PLAY AGAIN...?
OOF!
VENOM BROKE MY NOSE ONCE, ALMOST KILLED ME!*
BUT I HAVE TO STAND MY GROUND!
*IN AMAZING #316.-- DANNY
I DON'T WANT YOU, VENOM-- I WANT WHAT YOU WANT!
I'VE COME TO HELP PUT CARNAGE IN A BODY BAG!
ALONE?

NO.
SPIDER!
OKAY, I'M IN-- BUT HERE ARE THE RULES: I'M ABOARD TO SAVE LIVES!
IF ANYONE, ON EITHER SIDE, TRIES TO KILL SOMEONE, I'LL DO WHATEVER IT TAKES TO STOP THEM! GOT IT?
I HATE THIS! BUT SOMETIMES DECISIONS HAVE TO BE MADE, EVEN IF BOTH CHOICES ARE REPULSIVE!
BESIDES, CAT IS OUT OF HER LEAGUE. BY GOING ALONG, MAYBE I CAN KEEP HER FROM GETTING HURT! YEAH.
JUST KEEP TELLING YOURSELF THAT, SPIDEY.
JUST KEEP TELLING YOURSELF THAT...!
BEEDEEBEEP
DARN! GOT THE MACHINE!
HELLO, PETER? YOU THERE? IF YOU ARE, PICK UP THE PHONE, OKAY?
PLEASE? PETER? OH, PLEASE, DARLING...
...DON'T BE DEAD.

LET'S MOVE OUT, BOYS N' GIRLS! TIME FOR A LITTLE GASHIN' AN' GUTTIN'!
WHO--?
NO!
NOT NOW--NOT EVER!
SURELY YOU HAVEN'T FORGOTTEN CLOAK!
EVER SINCE DAGGER WAS VAPORIZED IN THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY GHOST,* I'VE BEEN TELEPORTING INTO EVERY RAT-HOLE IN THIS CITY-- --INCLUDING ONES YOU USED TO FREQUENT, SHRIEK--SEARCHING FOR THE SCUM RESPONSIBLE FOR HER DEATH!
NOW I'VE FOUND YOU, AND YOU'RE GOING TO PAY...
...IN KIND!
*IN WEB#101. --D.

NOTHING!
HERE, EITHER!
AND I'M NOT PICKING UP ANYTHING ON LOCAL NEWS REPORTS! BUT WE'VE **GOT** TO FIND THEM! THERE HAS TO BE SOME CLUE, SOME **SIGN--!**
SHEEE-VAKKK
OVER HERE!

YOUR SOUND BURST... HURT...
... BUT IT DIDN'T... STOP ME!
THEN PERHAPS BURNING WILL!
NOT WHEN MY CLOAK... CAN ABSORB YOUR FIRE INTO THE DARK DIMENSION BEFORE--
AAAAAAAGGHH!
SHVVREEEEEK
HE'S DOWN!
DOPPELGANGER--
--FINISH HIM!
NO!

TALK ABOUT THE NICK OF TIME!
JUST REMEMBER WHAT I SAID ABOUT NOT *KILLING*--!
I *KNEW* THIS WAS A MISTAKE...!
CARNAGE BRAINS!
YUM!
LOOKS LIKE THE *BOYS* ARE BUSY!
HOW ABOUT YOU AND *I* DANCE AWHILE?
DOPPEL!
OW!
TH-THAT FREAK'S WEBLINE!
CUTTING THROUGH MY *BOOT!*

BUT THE POLARIZED MESH CLAWS IN MY GLOVES CAN DO SOME SNAZZY SNIPPING OF THEIR OWN!
SLAKT
NOW, ABOUT THAT WALTZ...?
YOUR SENSELESS SLAUGHTER OF INNOCENTS IS ABOUT TO END, KASADY!
GET REAL, POPS! I ALMOST SCRUBBED YOU AN' THE SPIDER-GUY BEFORE--
-- AN' THIS TIME I'M NOT ALONE!
NEITHER ARE WE!
YES! THE DARK DIMENSION WILL TEACH HIM A LESSON NO EARTHLY PUNISHMENT COULD MATCH!
OH, NO!
I UNDERESTIMATED CLOAK'S RAGE! HE'S LIABLE TO--

FAT CHANCE, SPARKY! WITH THIS COSTUME, I'M STRONGER THAN ANY DOPEY DIMENSION!
HE'S PULLING FREE!
AND I'M HAPPY ABOUT THAT?!?
'COURSE, LEAVIN' SOME O' MYSELF BEHIND SMARTS A BIT!
SPAK SPAK SPAK SPAK
BUT Y'KNOW WHAT THEY SAY: "NO PAIN, NO REIGN"--
--OF TERROR, THAT IS!
I'D BETTER-- huh?
CAT!
LEAVE HER ALONE!
THWIPP THWIPP
WHAT THE--?!
NORMALLY, I KINDA DIG ON GUYS IN SPANDEX! BUT IN ABOUT THREE SECONDS, WHEN I BREAK OUTTA THESE LINES--
--I'M GONNA GIVE YOU SUCH A HURT!

NO TIME!
WE'VE GOT BETTER THINGS TA DO!
DEMOGOBLIN! IF IT'S NOT BENEATH YOUR UNHOLINESS, FLAME THE ROOF!
SHRIEK--!
GOTCHA, CARNY!
DEMO FIRES IT UP--
--AN' I BRING IT DOWN!
SHAKSH
THE WHOLE PLACE IS FALLING APART! CLOAK'S ALREADY TELEPORTED OUT!
AND WE'D BETTER FOLLOW HIS EXAMPLE--
--FAST!

THEY'RE GETTING AWAY! VENOM! STAY ON CARNAGE!
WE...WE CAN'T! THE FLAMES WEAKENED US! BARELY HANGING ON!
IT'S UP... TO YOU!
VENOM LOST CONSCIOUSNESS! HE'S FALLING BACK TOWARD THE WAREHOUSE! HASN'T GOT A CHANCE IF I DON'T--
--Hnh? SOMEONE MOANING?
"OH, LORD! CAT DIDN'T MAKE IT OUT! SHE MUST'VE BEEN HURT!
"AND THE FIRE'S CLOSING IN!"
IF I LET CARNAGE GO HUNDREDS COULD DIE! BUT IF I LEAVE THE CAT AND VENOM, THEY'LL DIE!
I'VE HAD TO MAKE SOME HARD DECISIONS IN THE LAST FEW HOURS, BUT HOW CAN I POSSIBLY MAKE THIS ONE?
HOW?
FIND OUT IN SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #201, AS MAXIMUM CARNAGE CONTINUES!

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PART 5 OF 14
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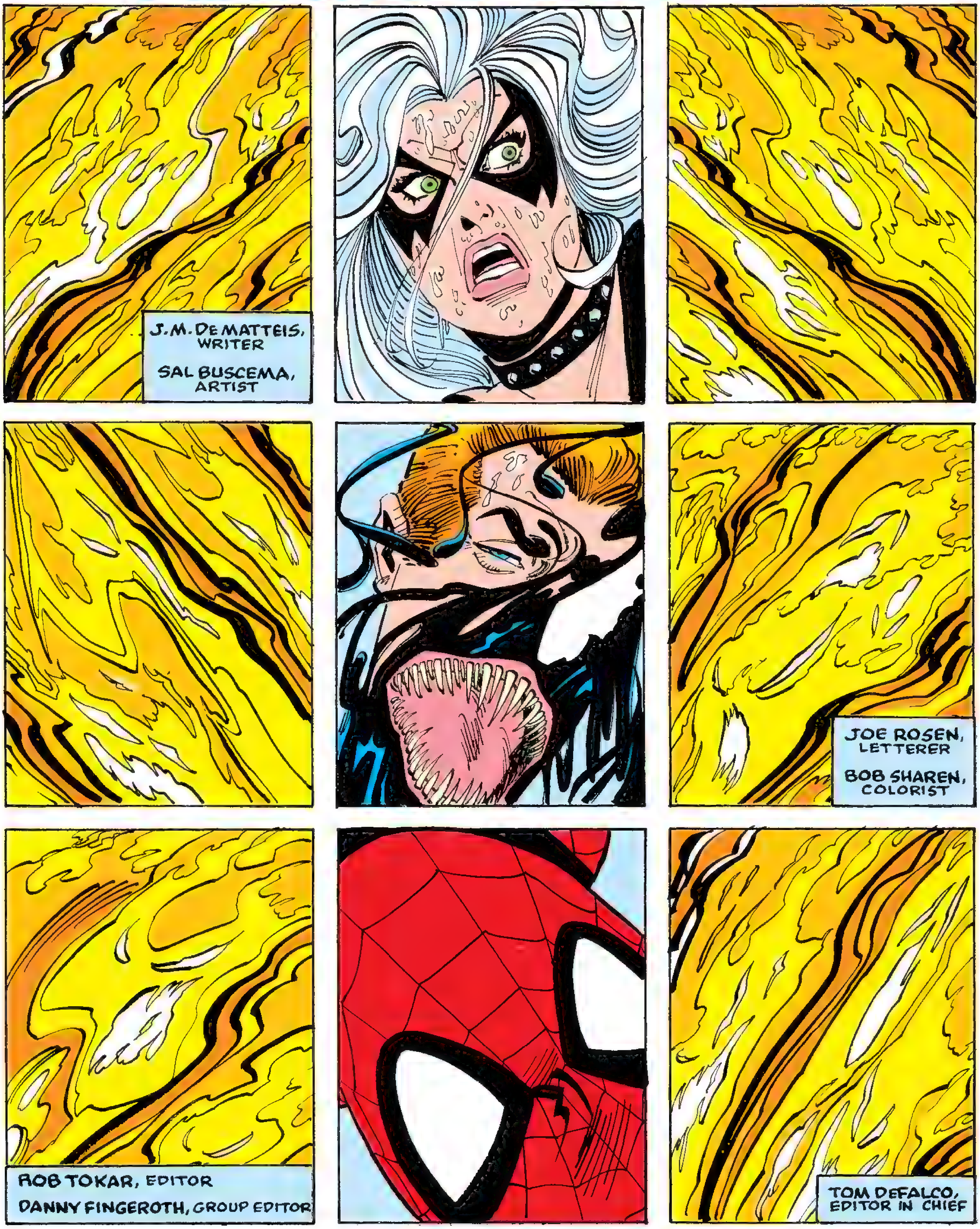
THERE'S MORE THAN ONE WAY...
TO KILL THE CAT!

BITTEN BY A RADIOACTIVE SPIDER, STUDENT ***PETER PARKER*** *GAINED THE PROPORTIONATE STRENGTH AND AGILITY OF AN ARACHNID! ARMED WITH HIS WONDROUS WEB-SHOOTERS, THE RELUCTANT SUPER HERO STRUGGLES WITH SINISTER SUPER-VILLAINS, MAKING ENDS MEET, AND MAINTAINING SOME SEMBLANCE OF A NORMAL LIFE!*

STAN LEE PRESENTS:

THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN!™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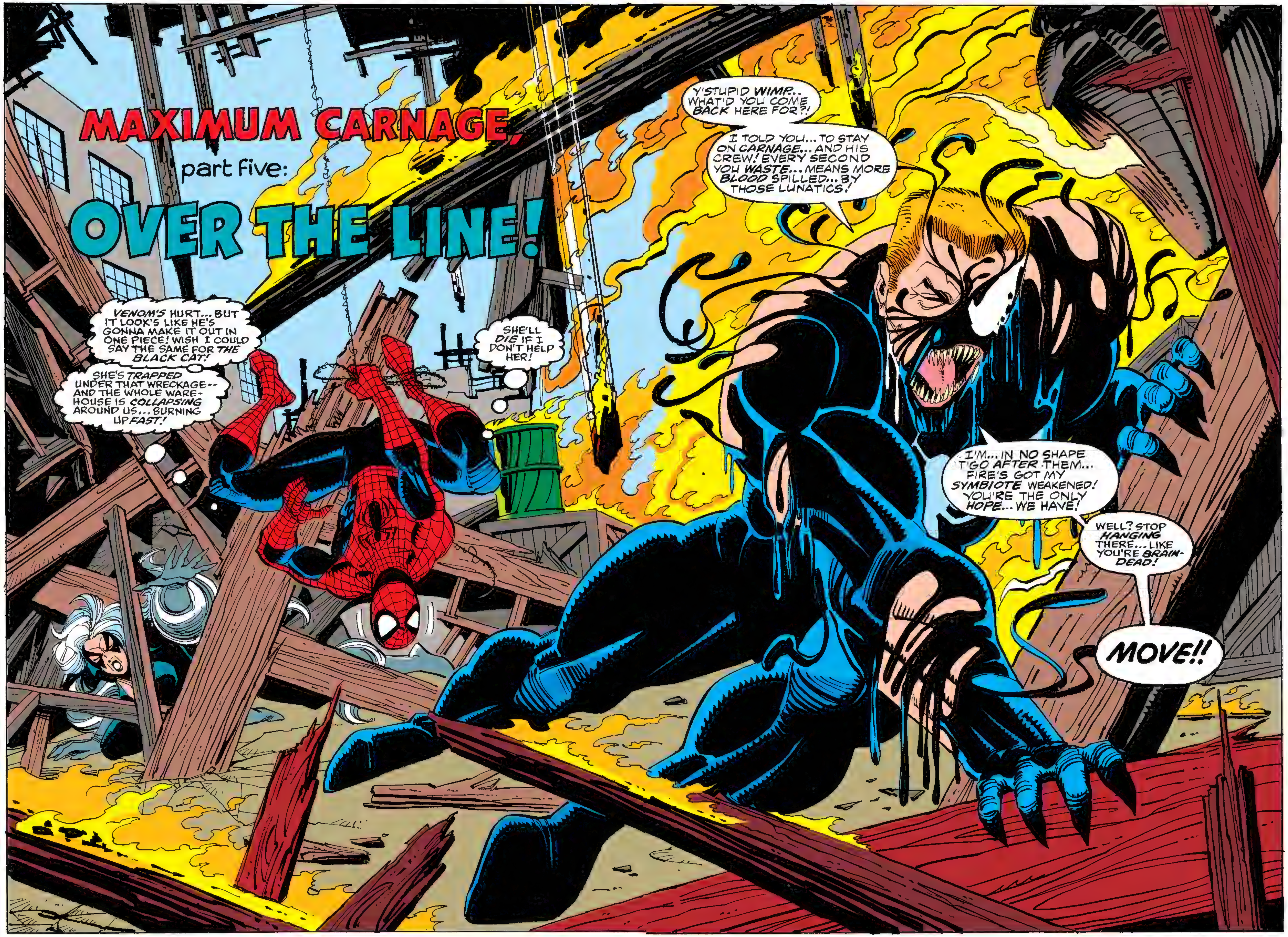
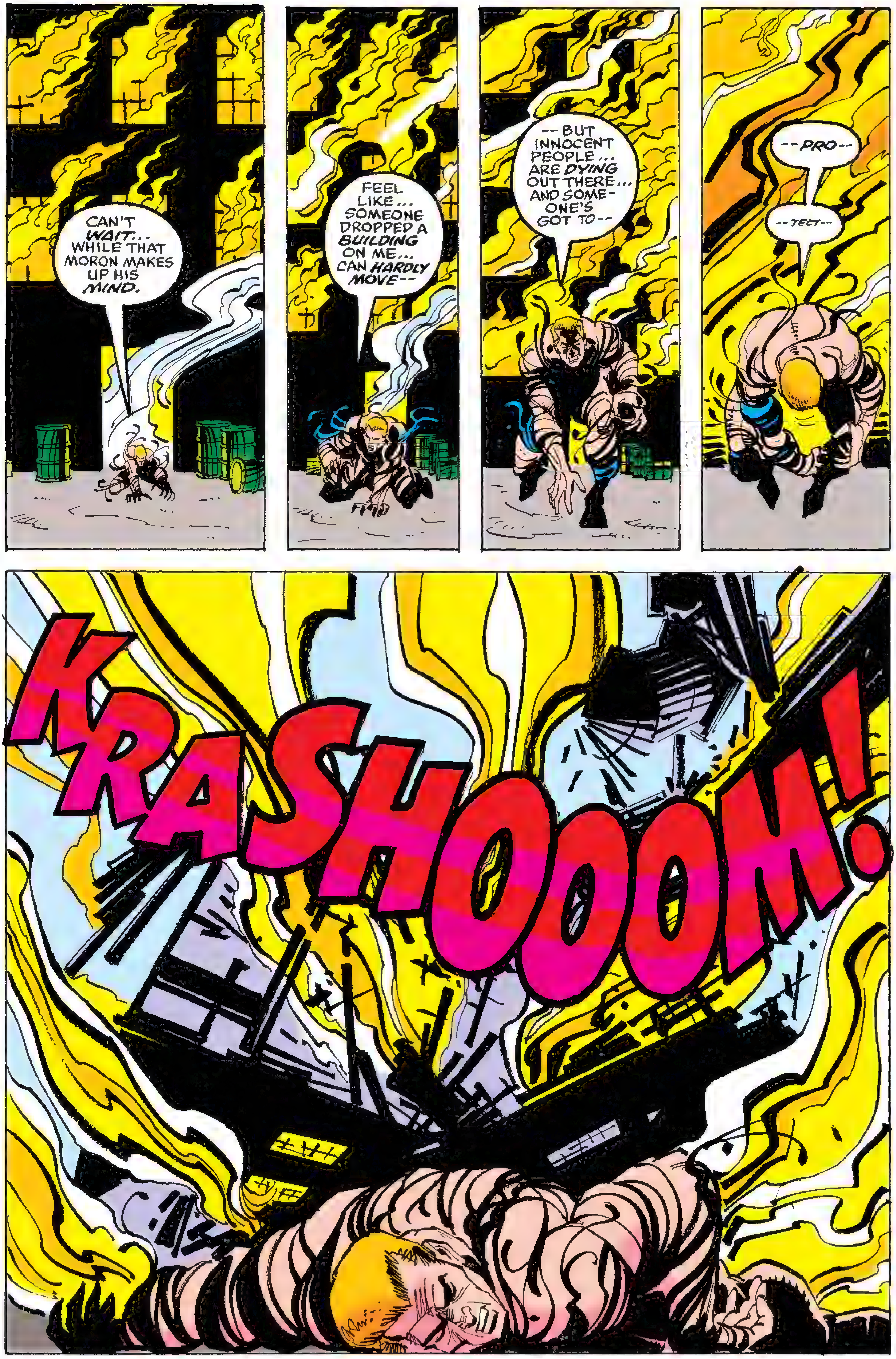
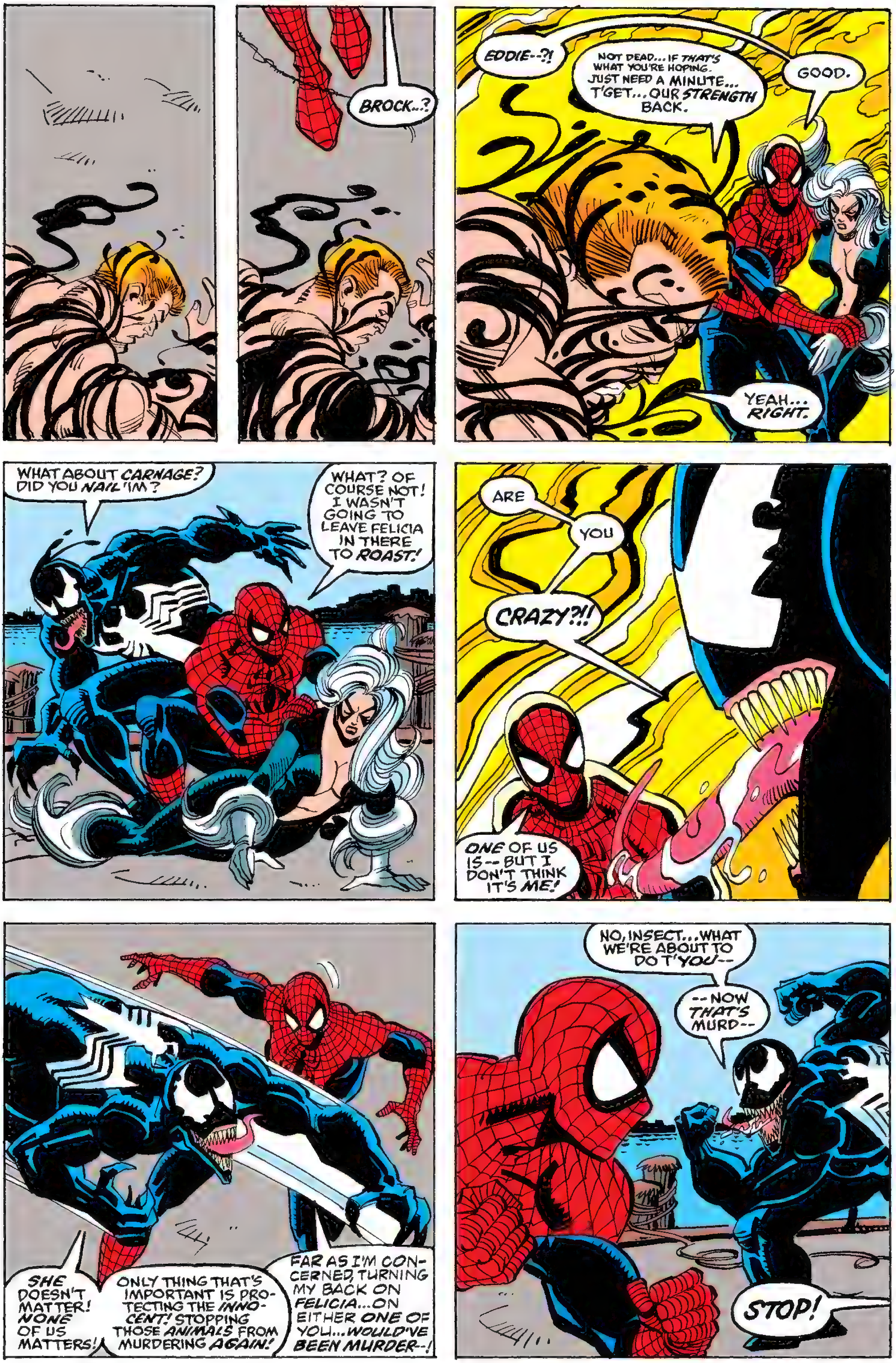
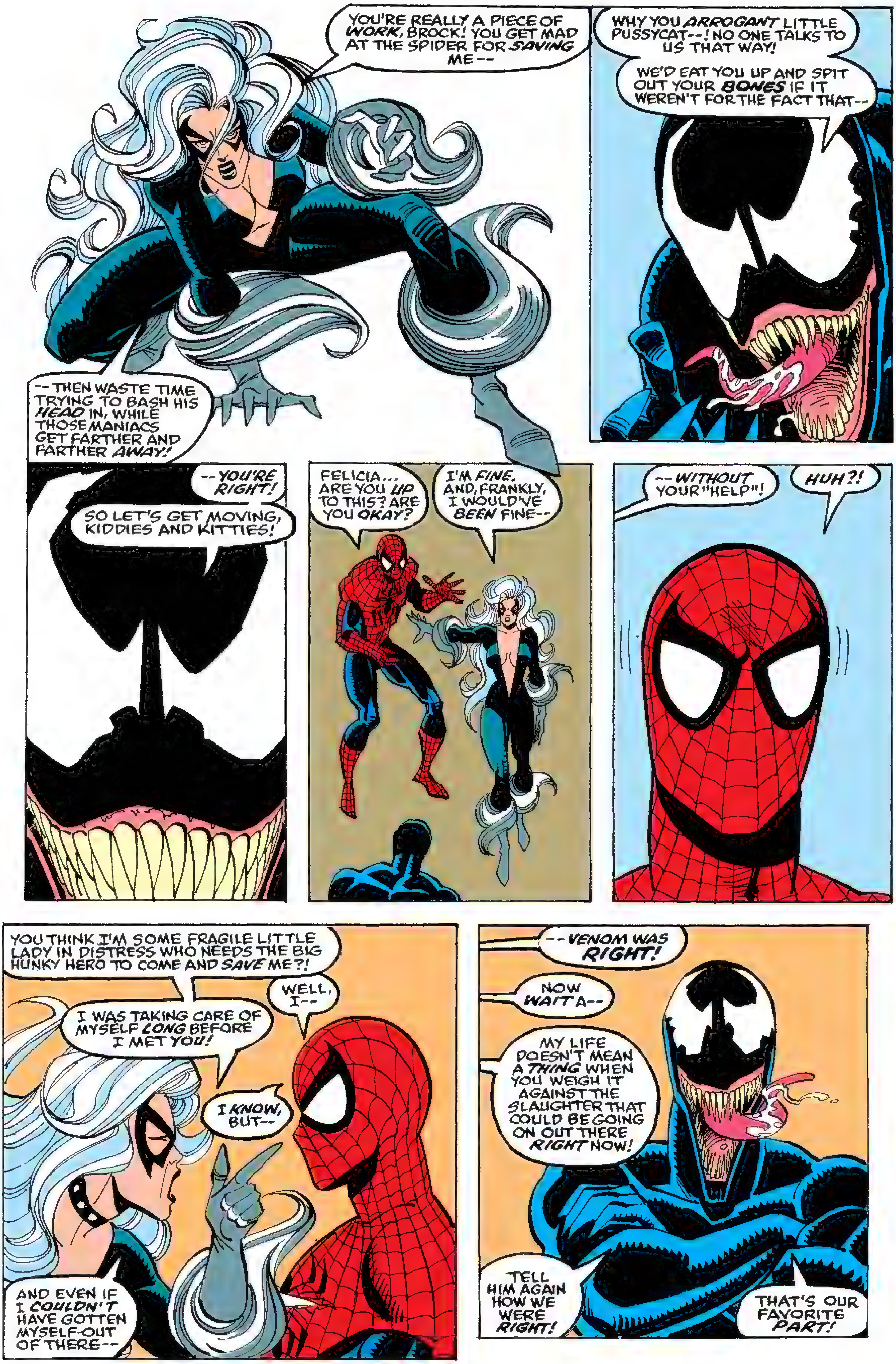
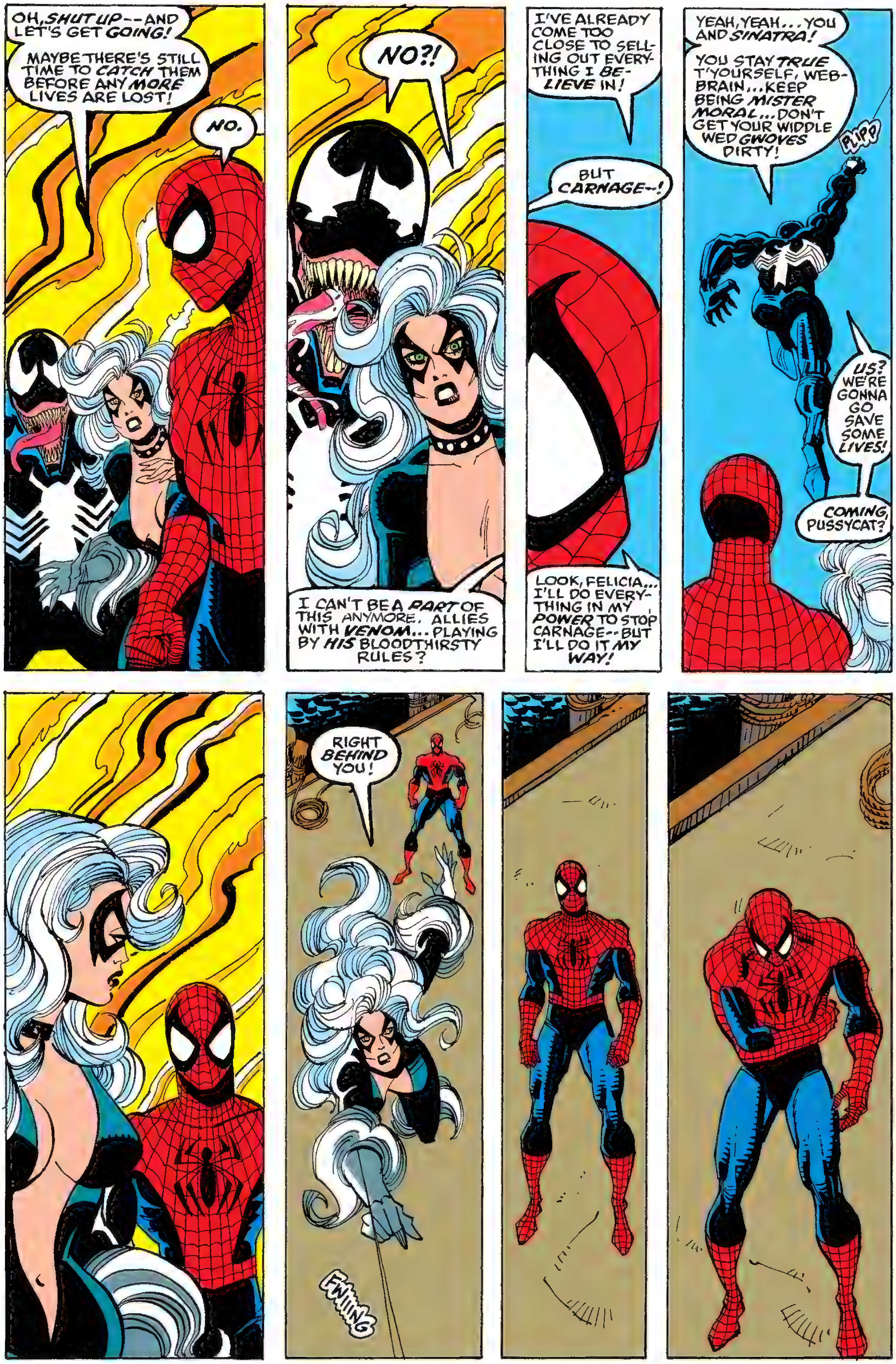
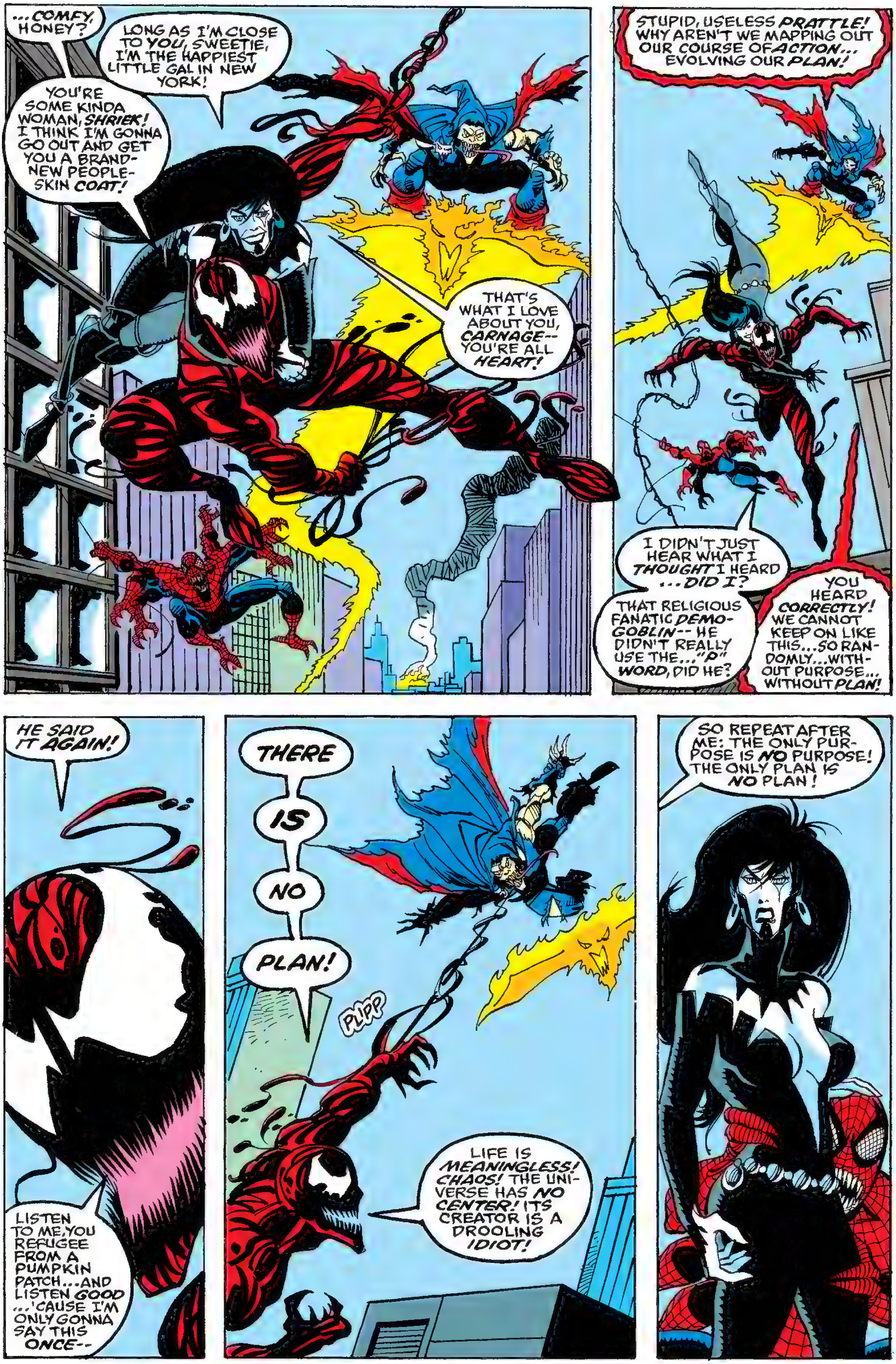

MAXIMUM CARNAGE,
part five:
OVER THE LINE!
VENOM'S HURT... BUT IT LOOK'S LIKE HE'S GONNA MAKE IT OUT IN ONE PIECE! WISH I COULD SAY THE SAME FOR THE BLACK CAT!
SHE'S TRAPPED UNDER THAT WRECKAGE-- AND THE WHOLE WAREHOUSE IS COLLAPSING AROUND US... BURNING UP FAST!
SHE'LL DIE IF I DON'T HELP HER!
Y'STUPID WIMP.. WHAT'D YOU COME BACK HERE FOR?!
I TOLD YOU... TO STAY ON CARNAGE... AND HIS CREW! EVERY SECOND YOU WASTE... MEANS MORE BLOOD SPILLED... BY THOSE LUNATICS!
I'M... IN NO SHAPE T'GO AFTER THEM... FIRE'S GOT MY SYMBIOTE WEAKENED! YOU'RE THE ONLY HOPE... WE HAVE!
WELL? STOP HANGING THERE... LIKE YOU'RE BRAIN-DEAD!
MOVE!!

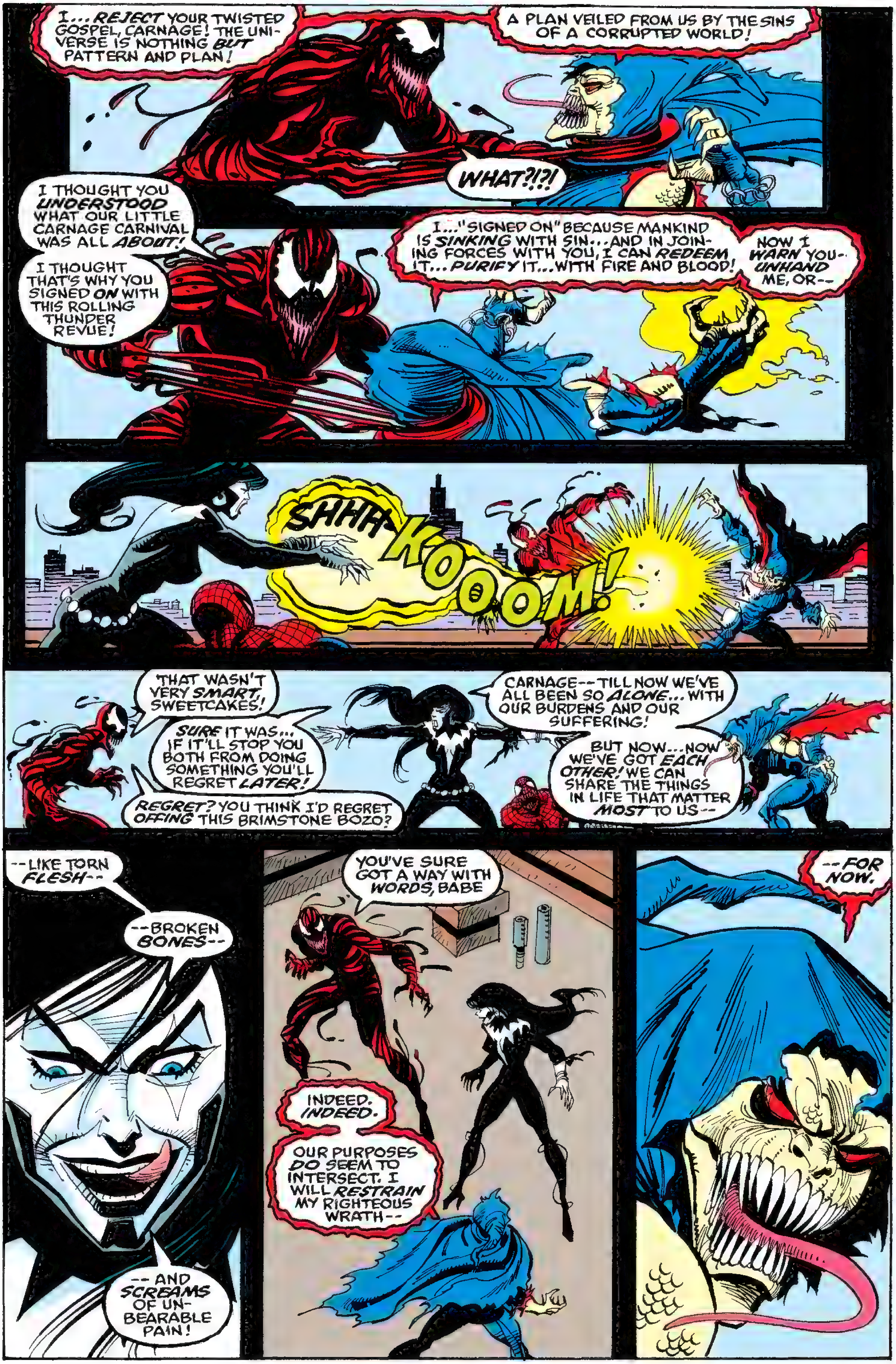

CAN'T *WAIT*... WHILE THAT MORON MAKES UP HIS *MIND.*
FEEL LIKE... SOMEONE DROPPED A *BUILDING* ON ME... CAN *HARDLY MOVE*--
--BUT INNOCENT PEOPLE... ARE *DYING* OUT THERE... AND SOMEONE'S GOT TO--
--*PRO*--
--*TECT*--
KRASHOOOM!


BROCK..?
EDDIE--?!
NOT DEAD... IF *THAT'S* WHAT YOU'RE HOPING. JUST NEED A MINUTE... T'GET... OUR *STRENGTH* BACK.
GOOD.
YEAH... *RIGHT.*
WHAT ABOUT *CARNAGE?* DID YOU *NAIL* 'IM?
WHAT? OF COURSE NOT! I WASN'T GOING TO LEAVE FELICIA IN THERE TO *ROAST!*
ARE
YOU
CRAZY?!!
ONE OF US IS-- BUT I DON'T THINK IT'S *ME!*
SHE DOESN'T MATTER! *NONE* OF US MATTERS!
ONLY THING THAT'S IMPORTANT IS PROTECTING THE *INNOCENT!* STOPPING THOSE *ANIMALS* FROM MURDERING *AGAIN!*
FAR AS I'M CONCERNED, TURNING MY BACK ON *FELICIA*... ON EITHER *ONE* OF YOU... *WOULD'VE BEEN MURDER*--!
NO, INSECT... WHAT WE'RE ABOUT TO DO T'*YOU*--
--NOW *THAT'S* MURD--
STOP!

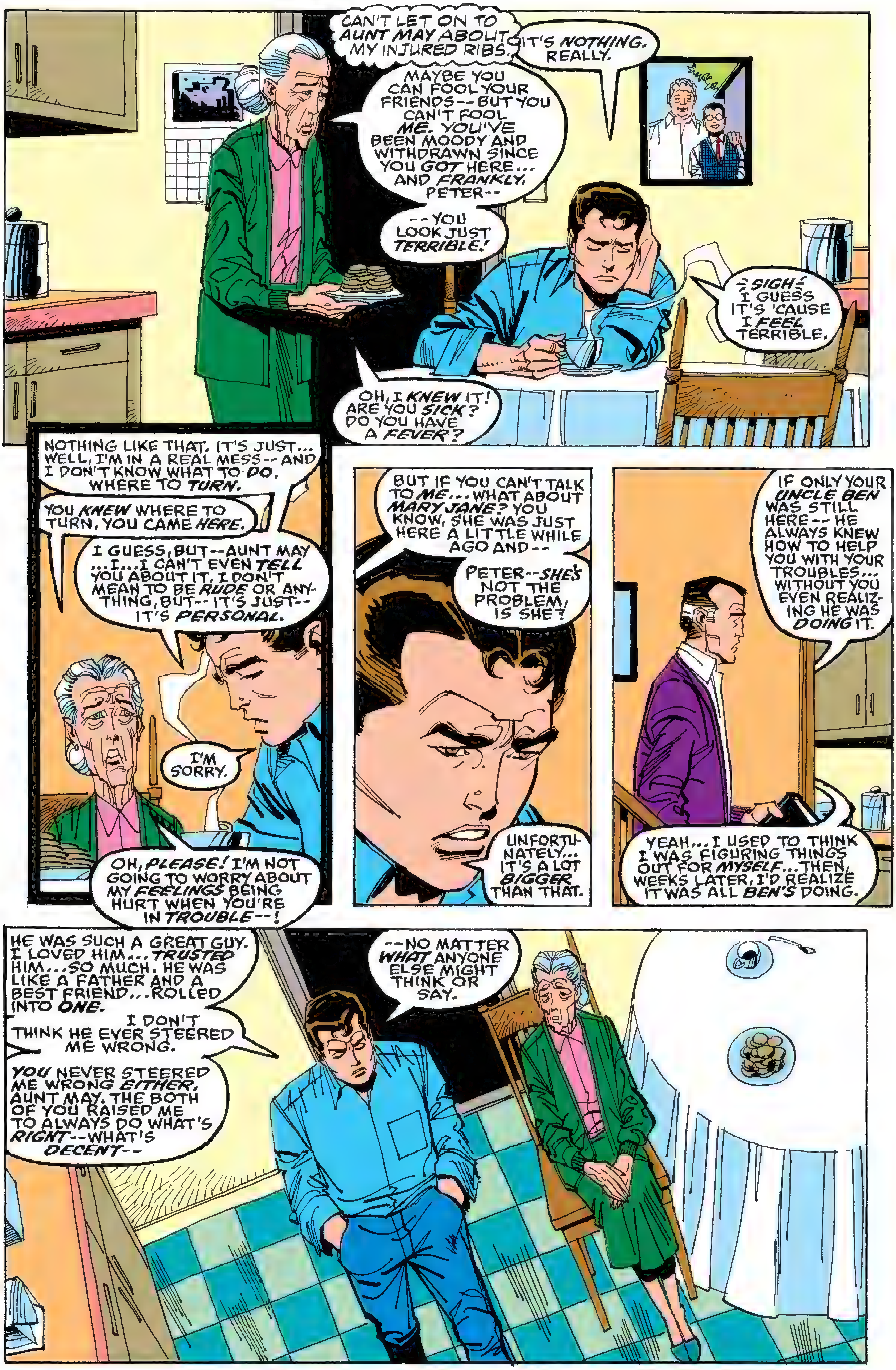

YOU'RE REALLY A PIECE OF *WORK*, BROCK! YOU GET MAD AT THE SPIDER FOR *SAVING* ME--
--THEN WASTE TIME TRYING TO BASH HIS *HEAD* IN, WHILE THOSE MANIACS GET FARTHER AND FARTHER *AWAY!*
WHY YOU *ARROGANT* LITTLE PUSSYCAT--! NO ONE TALKS TO US THAT WAY!
WE'D EAT YOU UP AND SPIT OUT YOUR *BONES* IF IT WEREN'T FOR THE FACT THAT--
--*YOU'RE RIGHT!*
SO LET'S GET MOVING, KIDDIES AND KITTIES!
FELICIA... ARE YOU *UP* TO THIS? ARE YOU *OKAY?*
I'M *FINE*. AND, FRANKLY, I WOULD'VE *BEEN* FINE--
--*WITHOUT* YOUR "HELP"!
HUH?!
YOU THINK I'M SOME FRAGILE LITTLE LADY IN DISTRESS WHO NEEDS THE BIG HUNKY HERO TO COME AND *SAVE* ME?!
WELL, I--
I WAS TAKING CARE OF MYSELF *LONG* BEFORE I MET *YOU!*
I KNOW, BUT--
AND EVEN IF I *COULDN'T* HAVE GOTTEN MYSELF OUT OF THERE--
--*VENOM WAS RIGHT!*
NOW *WAIT* A--
MY LIFE DOESN'T MEAN A *THING* WHEN YOU WEIGH IT AGAINST THE SLAUGHTER THAT COULD BE GOING ON OUT THERE *RIGHT* NOW!
TELL HIM AGAIN HOW WE WERE *RIGHT!*
THAT'S OUR FAVORITE *PART!*

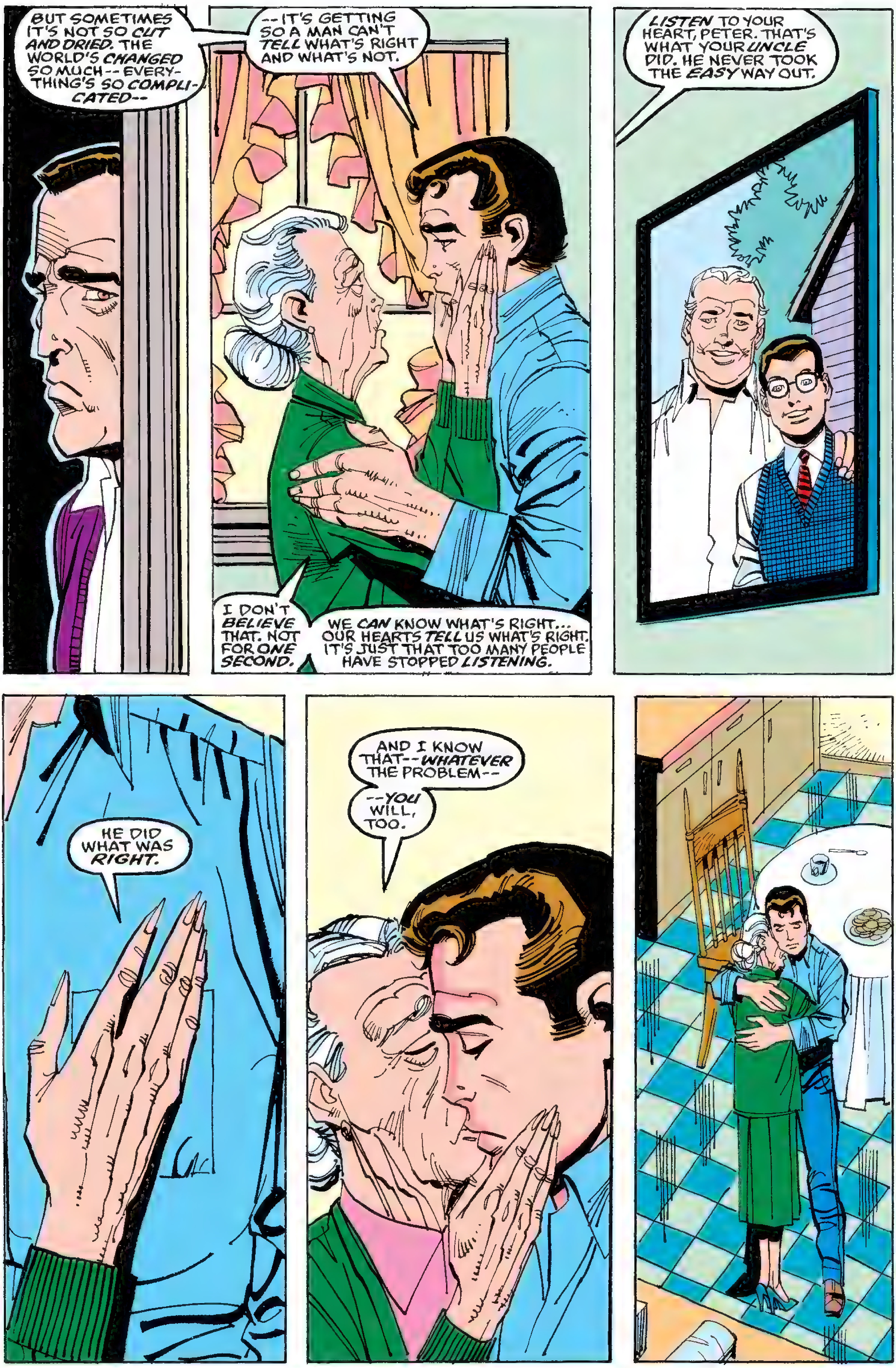

OH, SHUT UP-- AND LET'S GET GOING!
MAYBE THERE'S STILL TIME TO CATCH THEM BEFORE ANY MORE LIVES ARE LOST!
NO.
NO?!
I CAN'T BE A PART OF THIS ANYMORE. ALLIES WITH VENOM... PLAYING BY HIS BLOODTHIRSTY RULES?
I'VE ALREADY COME TOO CLOSE TO SELLING OUT EVERYTHING I BELIEVE IN!
BUT CARNAGE--!
LOOK, FELICIA... I'LL DO EVERYTHING IN MY POWER TO STOP CARNAGE-- BUT I'LL DO IT MY WAY!
YEAH, YEAH... YOU AND SINATRA!
YOU STAY TRUE T'YOURSELF, WEB-BRAIN... KEEP BEING MISTER MORAL... DON'T GET YOUR WIDDLE WED GWOVES DIRTY!
FLIPP
US? WE'RE GONNA GO SAVE SOME LIVES!
COMING, PUSSYCAT?
RIGHT BEHIND YOU!
FWIIING

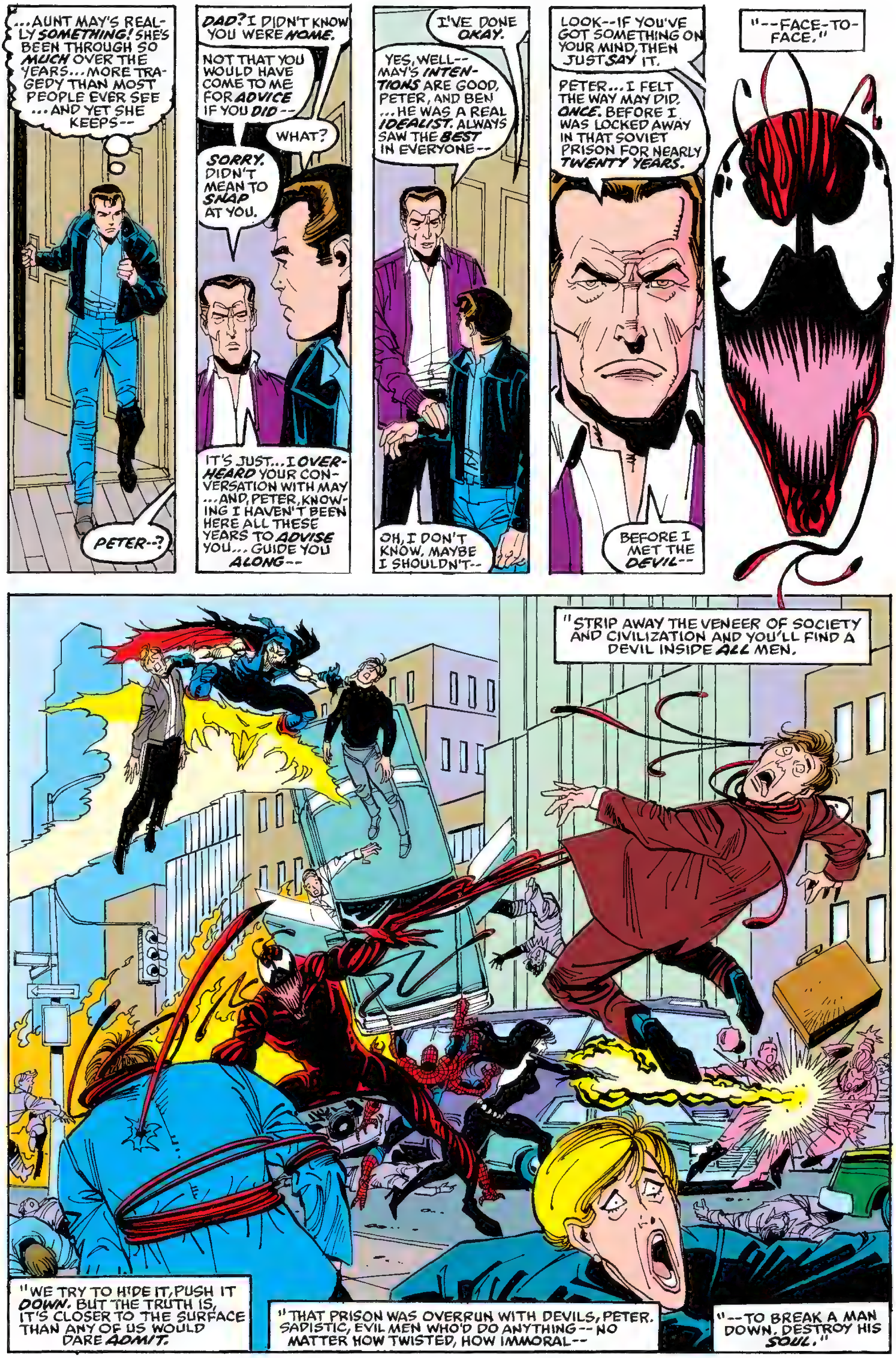

...COMFY, HONEY?
LONG AS I'M CLOSE TO *YOU*, SWEETIE, I'M THE HAPPIEST LITTLE GAL IN NEW YORK!
YOU'RE SOME KINDA WOMAN, *SHRIEK!* I THINK I'M GONNA GO OUT AND GET YOU A BRAND-NEW PEOPLE-SKIN *COAT!*
THAT'S WHAT I LOVE ABOUT YOU, *CARNAGE*-- YOU'RE ALL *HEART!*
STUPID, USELESS *PRATTLE!* WHY AREN'T WE MAPPING OUT OUR COURSE OF *ACTION*... EVOLVING OUR *PLAN!*
I DIDN'T JUST HEAR WHAT I *THOUGHT* I HEARD ...*DID I?*
THAT RELIGIOUS FANATIC *DEMOGOBLIN*-- HE DIDN'T REALLY USE THE... *"P" WORD*, DID HE?
YOU HEARD *CORRECTLY!* WE CANNOT KEEP ON LIKE THIS...SO RANDOMLY...WITHOUT PURPOSE... WITHOUT *PLAN!*
HE SAID IT AGAIN!
LISTEN TO ME, YOU REFUGEE FROM A PUMPKIN PATCH...AND LISTEN *GOOD* ...'CAUSE I'M ONLY GONNA SAY THIS *ONCE*--
THERE IS NO PLAN!
PLIPP
LIFE IS *MEANINGLESS! CHAOS!* THE UNIVERSE HAS *NO CENTER!* ITS CREATOR IS A DROOLING *IDIOT!*
SO REPEAT AFTER ME: THE ONLY PURPOSE IS *NO* PURPOSE! THE ONLY PLAN IS *NO* PLAN!


I... REJECT YOUR TWISTED GOSPEL, CARNAGE! THE UNIVERSE IS NOTHING BUT PATTERN AND PLAN!
A PLAN VEILED FROM US BY THE SINS OF A CORRUPTED WORLD!
WHAT?!?!
I THOUGHT YOU UNDERSTOOD WHAT OUR LITTLE CARNAGE CARNIVAL WAS ALL ABOUT!
I THOUGHT THAT'S WHY YOU SIGNED ON WITH THIS ROLLING THUNDER REVUE!
I..."SIGNED ON" BECAUSE MANKIND IS SINKING WITH SIN...AND IN JOINING FORCES WITH YOU, I CAN REDEEM IT...PURIFY IT...WITH FIRE AND BLOOD!
NOW I WARN YOU--UNHAND ME, OR--
SHHHKOOOOM!
THAT WASN'T VERY SMART, SWEETCAKES!
SURE IT WAS... IF IT'LL STOP YOU BOTH FROM DOING SOMETHING YOU'LL REGRET LATER!
REGRET? YOU THINK I'D REGRET OFFING THIS BRIMSTONE BOZO?
CARNAGE--TILL NOW WE'VE ALL BEEN SO ALONE... WITH OUR BURDENS AND OUR SUFFERING!
BUT NOW...NOW WE'VE GOT EACH OTHER! WE CAN SHARE THE THINGS IN LIFE THAT MATTER MOST TO US--
--LIKE TORN FLESH--
--BROKEN BONES--
--AND SCREAMS OF UNBEARABLE PAIN!
YOU'VE SURE GOT A WAY WITH WORDS, BABE
INDEED. INDEED.
OUR PURPOSES DO SEEM TO INTERSECT. I WILL RESTRAIN MY RIGHTEOUS WRATH--
--FOR NOW.

THERE HE GOES AGAIN WITH THE "PURPOSES"!! THERE IS NO PURPOSE, YOU TWIT--GET THAT THROUGH YOUR HOLLOW HEAD!
CARNAGE... CARNAGE... HE JUST DOESN'T UNDERSTAND! HE DOESN'T HAVE YOUR EXPERIENCE ...YOUR WISDOM!
BUT WITH A TEACHER LIKE YOU... HE'LL LEARN. THINK OF HIM... THINK OF BOTH OF THEM... AS YOUR SONS.
YOU CAN MOLD THEM IN YOUR IMAGE. SHAPE THEIR CHARACTERS. LEAD THEM INTO MANHOOD. OH... THEY'LL MAKE YOU SO PROUD!
WELL... WHEN YOU PUT IT LIKE THAT...!
BUT, HEY--IF DEMOGOBLIN AND THAT LITTLE SPIDER-GEEK ARE MY KIDS... WHAT DOES THAT MAKE YOU?
USE YOUR IMAGINATION, LOVER.
YUM--!
NOW HOW WOULD MY HONEY-BUNNY LIKE A BIG GLASS OF MILK AND SOME GIRL-SCOUT COOKIES?
HUH?!
OF COURSE WE'LL HAVE TO GO KILL A FEW DOZEN GIRL-SCOUTS FIRST!
I HATE TO BAKE WITHOUT FRESH INGREDIENTS!
HA-HA-HA-HA-HA-HA!!
THAT'S MY LITTLE SHRIEK! GOSH--
--YOU'VE JUST GOTTA LOVE 'ER!
...PETER-- ARE YOU SURE YOU'RE ALL RIGHT? YOU KEEP WINCING-- LIKE YOU'RE IN PAIN.


CAN'T LET ON TO *AUNT MAY* ABOUT MY INJURED RIBS.
IT'S *NOTHING,* REALLY.
MAYBE YOU CAN FOOL YOUR FRIENDS-- BUT YOU CAN'T FOOL *ME.* YOU'VE BEEN MOODY AND WITHDRAWN SINCE YOU *GOT* HERE... AND *FRANKLY,* PETER--
--YOU LOOK JUST *TERRIBLE!*
SIGH I GUESS IT'S 'CAUSE I *FEEL* TERRIBLE.
OH, I *KNEW* IT! ARE YOU *SICK?* DO YOU HAVE A *FEVER?*
NOTHING LIKE THAT. IT'S JUST... WELL, I'M IN A REAL MESS-- AND I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO *DO,* WHERE TO *TURN.*
YOU *KNEW* WHERE TO TURN. YOU CAME *HERE.*
I GUESS, BUT--AUNT MAY ...I...I CAN'T EVEN *TELL* YOU ABOUT IT. I DON'T MEAN TO BE *RUDE* OR ANYTHING, BUT-- IT'S JUST-- IT'S *PERSONAL.*
I'M SORRY.
OH, *PLEASE!* I'M NOT GOING TO WORRY ABOUT MY *FEELINGS* BEING HURT WHEN YOU'RE IN *TROUBLE*--!
BUT IF YOU CAN'T TALK TO *ME...* WHAT ABOUT *MARY JANE?* YOU KNOW, SHE WAS JUST HERE A LITTLE WHILE AGO AND--
PETER--*SHE'S* NOT THE PROBLEM, IS SHE?
UNFORTUNATELY... IT'S A LOT *BIGGER* THAN THAT.
IF ONLY YOUR *UNCLE BEN* WAS STILL HERE-- HE ALWAYS KNEW HOW TO HELP YOU WITH YOUR TROUBLES... WITHOUT YOU EVEN REALIZING HE WAS *DOING* IT.
YEAH... I USED TO THINK I WAS FIGURING THINGS OUT FOR *MYSELF*... THEN, WEEKS LATER, I'D REALIZE IT WAS ALL *BEN'S* DOING.
HE WAS SUCH A GREAT GUY. I LOVED HIM... *TRUSTED* HIM... SO MUCH. HE WAS LIKE A FATHER AND A BEST FRIEND... ROLLED INTO *ONE.*
I DON'T THINK HE EVER STEERED ME WRONG.
YOU NEVER STEERED ME WRONG *EITHER,* AUNT MAY. THE BOTH OF YOU RAISED ME TO ALWAYS DO WHAT'S *RIGHT*--WHAT'S *DECENT*--
--NO MATTER *WHAT* ANYONE ELSE MIGHT THINK OR SAY.

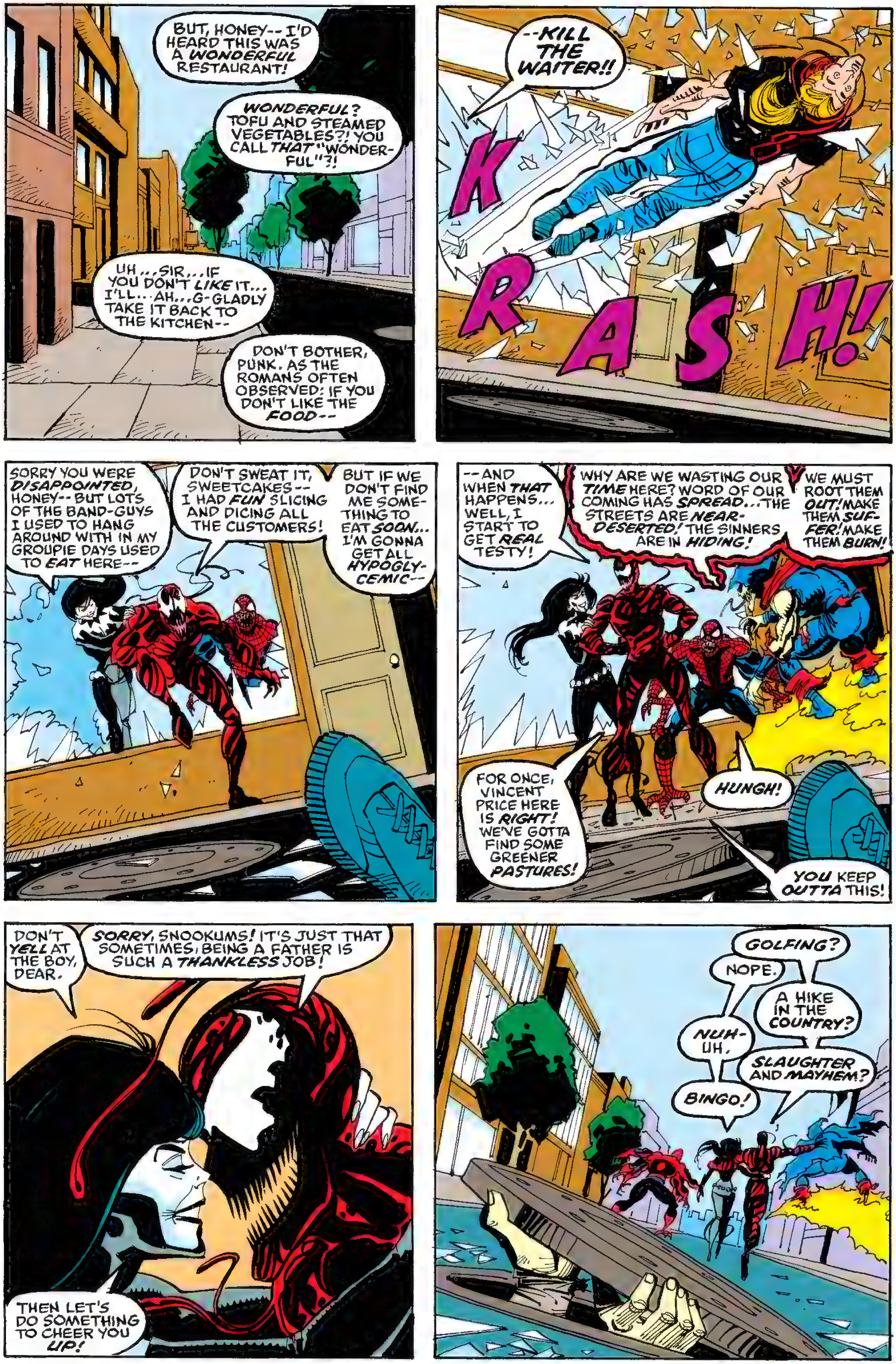

BUT SOMETIMES IT'S NOT SO *CUT AND DRIED.* THE WORLD'S *CHANGED* SO MUCH-- EVERYTHING'S SO *COMPLICATED*--
--IT'S GETTING SO A MAN CAN'T *TELL* WHAT'S RIGHT AND WHAT'S NOT.
I DON'T *BELIEVE* THAT. NOT FOR *ONE SECOND.*
WE *CAN* KNOW WHAT'S RIGHT... OUR HEARTS *TELL* US WHAT'S RIGHT. IT'S JUST THAT TOO MANY PEOPLE HAVE STOPPED *LISTENING.*
LISTEN TO YOUR HEART, PETER. THAT'S WHAT YOUR *UNCLE* DID. HE NEVER TOOK THE *EASY* WAY OUT.
HE DID WHAT WAS *RIGHT.*
AND I KNOW THAT--*WHATEVER* THE PROBLEM--
--*YOU* WILL, TOO.

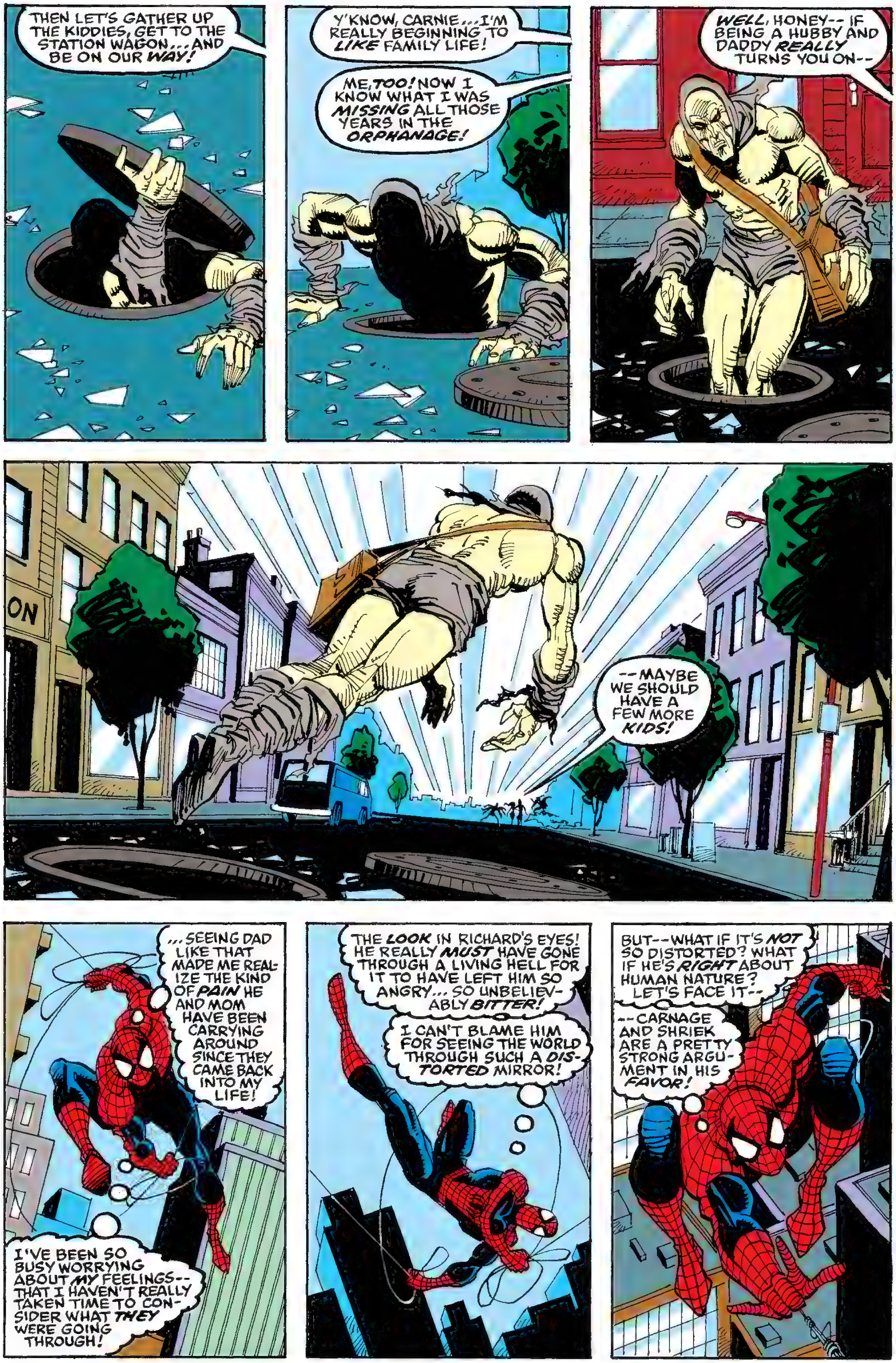

...AUNT MAY'S REALLY *SOMETHING!* SHE'S BEEN THROUGH SO *MUCH* OVER THE YEARS... MORE TRAGEDY THAN MOST PEOPLE EVER SEE ...AND YET SHE KEEPS--
PETER--?
DAD? I DIDN'T KNOW YOU WERE *HOME.*
NOT THAT YOU WOULD HAVE COME TO ME FOR *ADVICE* IF YOU *DID*--
WHAT?
SORRY. DIDN'T MEAN TO *SNAP* AT YOU.
IT'S JUST... I *OVERHEARD* YOUR CONVERSATION WITH MAY ...AND, PETER, KNOWING I HAVEN'T BEEN HERE ALL THESE YEARS TO *ADVISE* YOU... GUIDE YOU *ALONG*--
I'VE DONE *OKAY.*
YES, WELL-- MAY'S *INTENTIONS* ARE GOOD, PETER, AND BEN ...HE WAS A REAL *IDEALIST.* ALWAYS SAW THE *BEST* IN EVERYONE--
OH, I DON'T KNOW, MAYBE I SHOULDN'T--
LOOK--IF YOU'VE GOT SOMETHING ON YOUR MIND, THEN JUST *SAY* IT.
PETER... I FELT THE WAY MAY DID, *ONCE.* BEFORE I WAS LOCKED AWAY IN THAT SOVIET PRISON FOR NEARLY *TWENTY YEARS.*
BEFORE I MET THE *DEVIL*--
"--FACE-TO-FACE."
"STRIP AWAY THE VENEER OF SOCIETY AND CIVILIZATION AND YOU'LL FIND A DEVIL INSIDE *ALL* MEN.
"WE TRY TO HIDE IT, PUSH IT *DOWN.* BUT THE TRUTH IS, IT'S CLOSER TO THE SURFACE THAN ANY OF US WOULD DARE *ADMIT.*
"THAT PRISON WAS OVERRUN WITH DEVILS, PETER. SADISTIC, EVIL MEN WHO'D DO ANYTHING--NO MATTER HOW TWISTED, HOW IMMORAL--
"--TO BREAK A MAN DOWN, DESTROY HIS *SOUL.*"

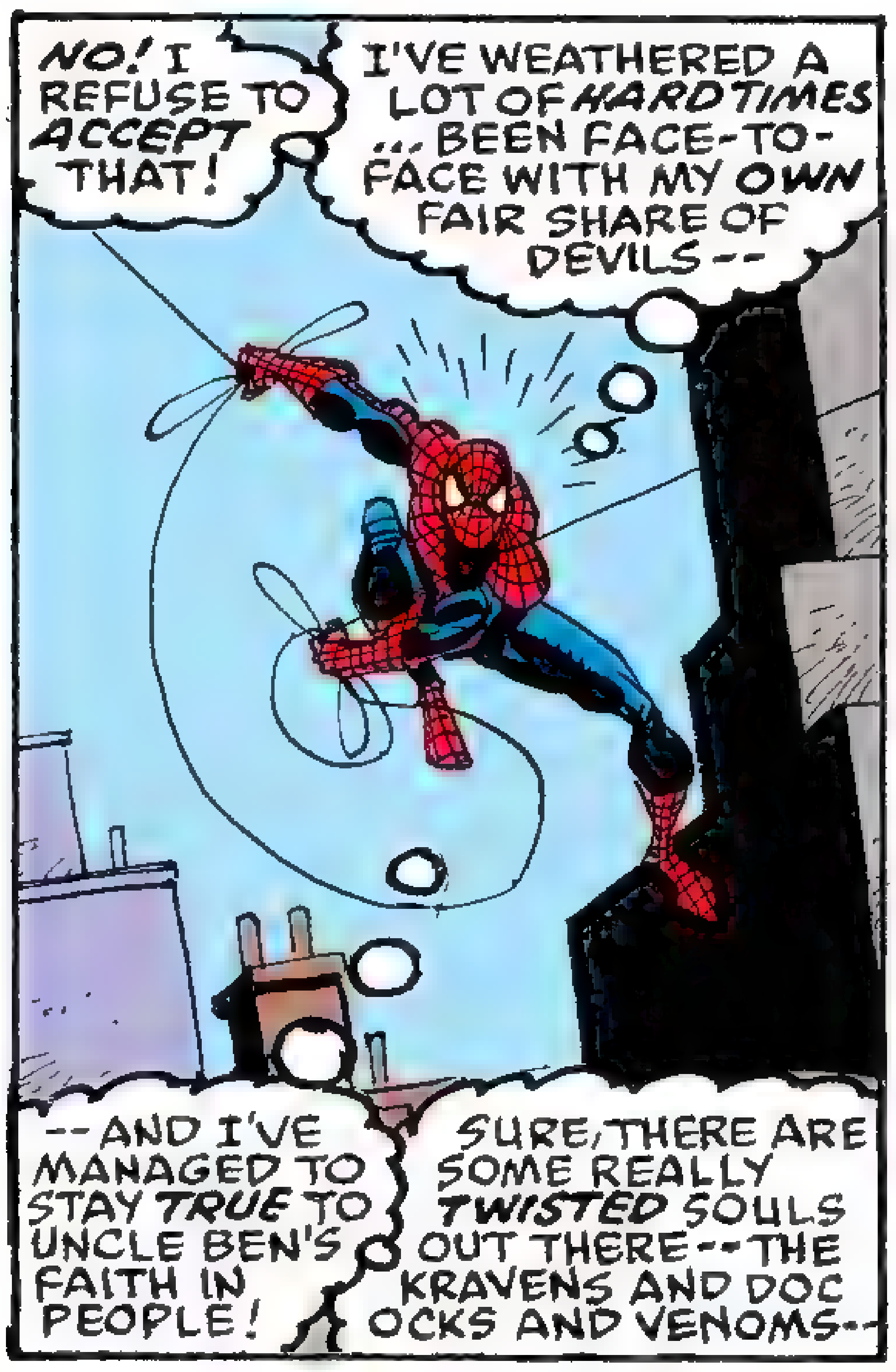
LOOK-- IF THIS IS TOO *PAINFUL* FOR YOU -- YOU DON'T HAVE TO --
NO, YOU *NEED* TO HEAR THIS. *HOWEVER* WELL-INTENTIONED BEN AND MAY WERE--
"--THEY WERE *WRONG* TO FILL YOUR HEAD WITH FAIRY TALES ABOUT THE GOODNESS AND DECENCY OF THE HUMAN *HEART.*"
OH, SURE--THERE *ARE* GOOD MEN IN THE WORLD. YOUR UNCLE WAS *ONE* OF THEM. AND LOOK WHERE IT GOT HIM--
DEAD. SHOT DOWN LIKE A *DOG.*
"AND KNOWING MY BROTHER, HE WAS PROBABLY LOOKING UP AT THE SCUM WHO DID IT--
"--TRYING TO UNDERSTAND *WHY.*
NYPD
"BUT WHEN IT COMES TO THE DEVILS, PETER--THERE *IS* NO WHY. NO RHYME OR REASON."
"I DON'T KNOW EXACTLY WHAT YOUR PROBLEM IS... BUT IT'S A BLEAK HARD WORLD OUT THERE. THE DEVILS WILL *CONSUME* YOU IF YOU LET THEM."
THAT'S WHY YOU'VE GOT TO FIGHT FIRE *WITH* FIRE!
"USE WHATEVER MEANS POSSIBLE TO STOP THE MADNESS ... BEFORE IT SWALLOWS YOU *UP!*"

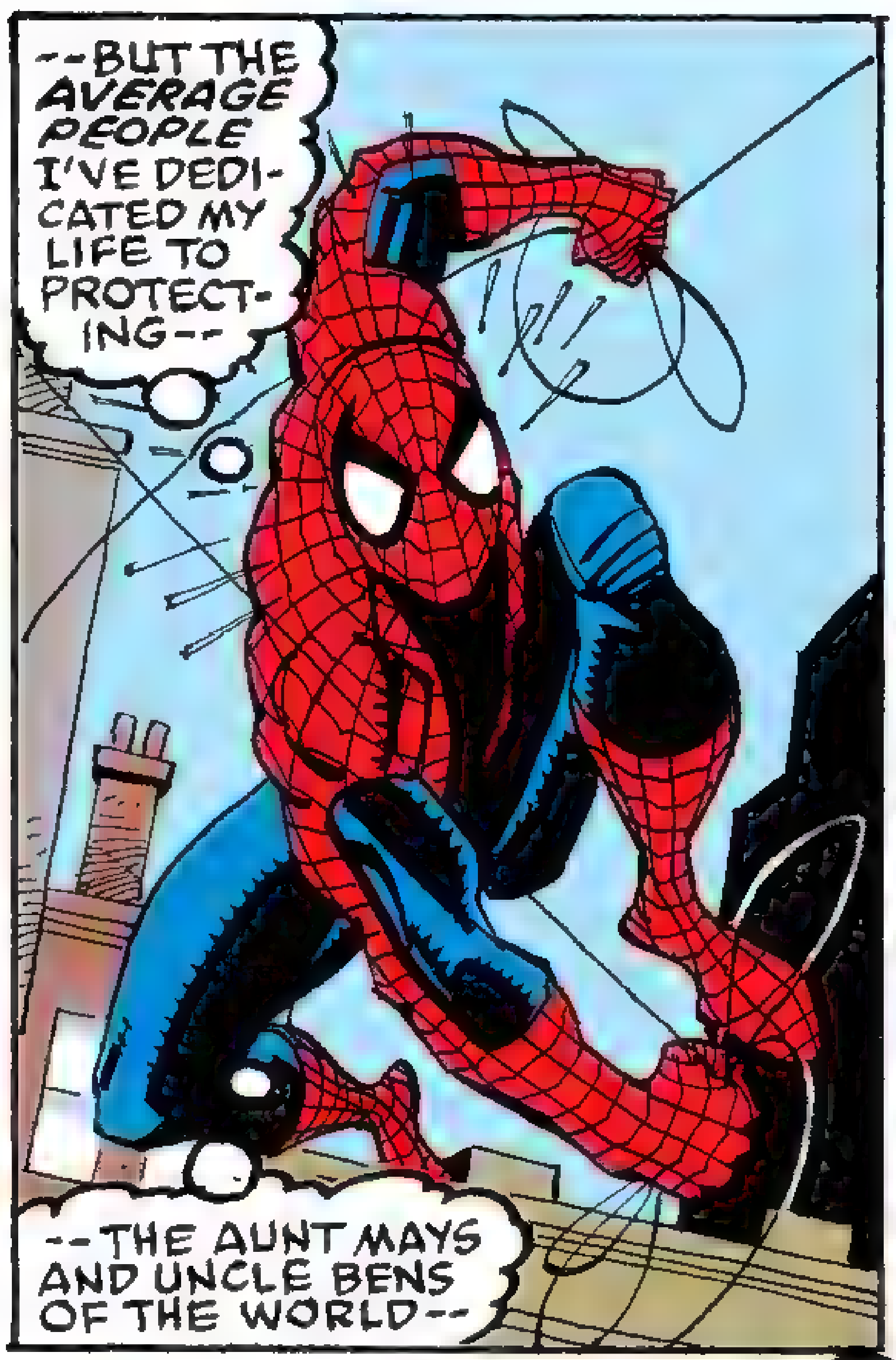
IT'S A HARD TRUTH... BUT I LIVED IT... FOR TWENTY LONG YEARS.
I WOULDN'T BE SITTING HERE TODAY IF I LIVED LIFE THE WAY BEN AND MAY DID. LOOKING FOR THE GOOD IN EVERYONE.
IF I'D DONE THAT, PETER--
"--I WOULD HAVE GONE DOWN IN FLAMES."
DAD... RICHARD... I UNDERSTAND WHAT YOU WENT THROUGH, BUT I JUST DON'T SEE LIFE THAT WAY. I--
NO! YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND! YOU HAVEN'T WALKED THROUGH HELL THE WAY YOUR MOTHER AND I DID!
I DON'T WANT TO SEE THE DEVILS BREAK MY SON THE WAY THEY BROKE ME!
DAD... I--
I HAVE TO GO.

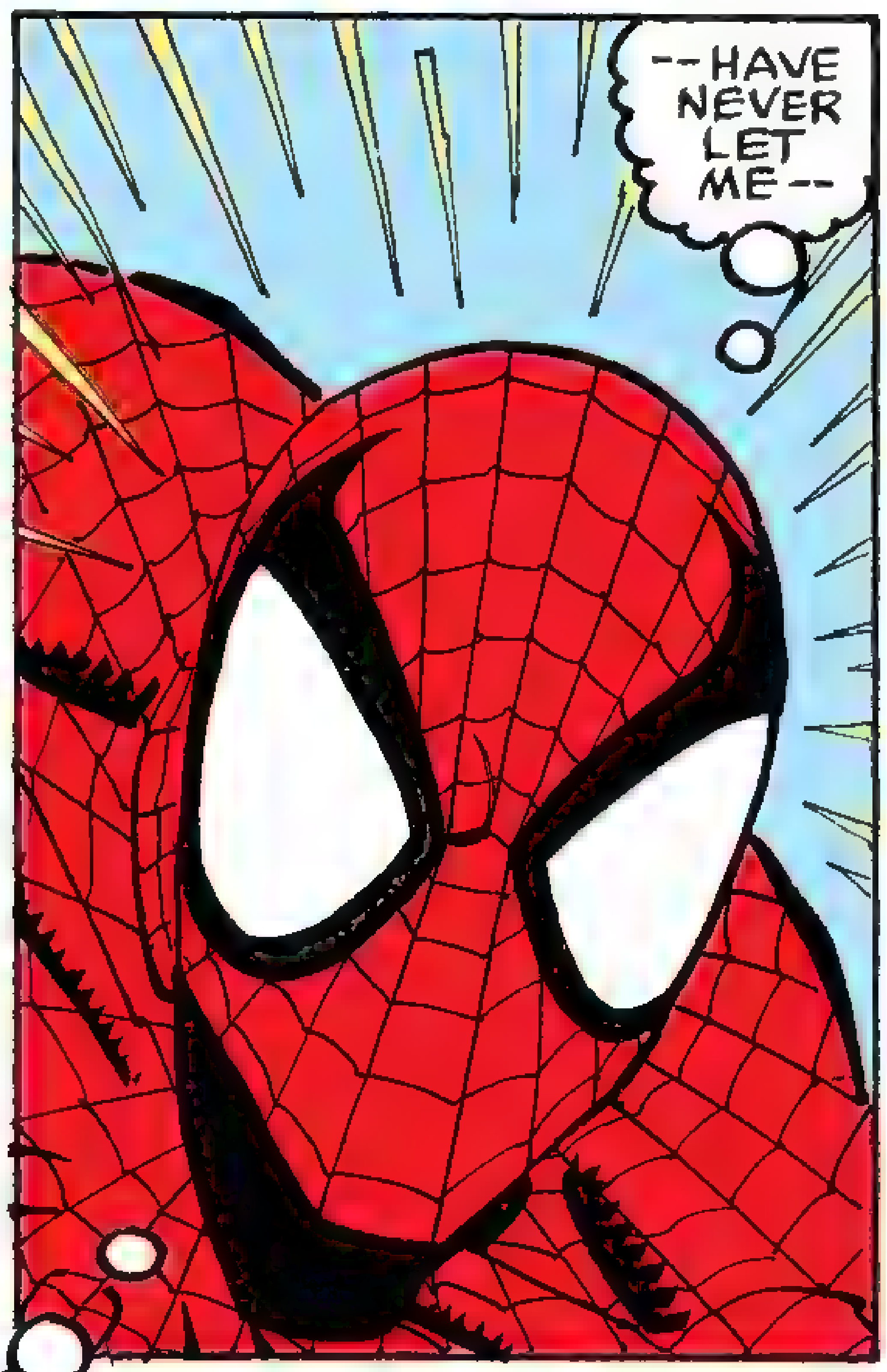
--WE'RE TOO LATE!
BUT IT'S ONLY A FEW MINUTES SINCE WE HEARD THAT REPORT ABOUT CARNAGE'S FIFTH AVENUE RAMPAGE!
A FEW MINUTES --AND LOOK!
LOOK AT WHAT HE'S DONE!
ALL THESE INNOCENTS--MURDERED BY MY "OFFSPRING" AND HIS PACK OF WILD DOGS!
THIS HAS TO STOP!
THIS HAS TO STOP!
AND WE WILL STOP IT. BUT WE CAN'T DO IT ALONE.
CLOAK! YOU'RE BACK!
I APOLOGIZE FOR MY DISAPPEARANCE AFTER I TELEPORTED FROM THE WAREHOUSE--
--BUT SINCE DAGGER'S DEATH, I'VE BEEN EXPERIENCING PERIODS OF DIZZINESS. WEAKNESS.
I NEEDED SOME TIME TO...GATHER MY ENERGIES.
YOU LOST THE PERSON YOU LOVE MOST IN ALL THE WORLD... AND YOU'VE BEEN GOING WITHOUT SLEEP, WITHOUT REST FOR NEARLY TWO DAYS NOW--
--IT'S NO WONDER YOU NEEDED TIME FOR--
TIME? IDIOTS! WE DON'T HAVE ANY TIME! IF YOU'RE TOO WEAK TO KEEP UP WITH US, CLOAK, THEN BAIL OUT NOW!
I HAVE NO INTENTION OF BAILING OUT, VENOM. BUT I MEANT WHAT I SAID BEFORE. IF WE'RE GOING TO STOP CARNAGE, SHRIEK, AND THE REST--
--WE'LL NEED REINFORCEMENTS.
AGREED!
WE'LL RECRUIT THE TOUGHEST, THE MOST VICIOUS BUNCH OF FIGHTERS WE CAN FIND--AND WE'LL CRUSH CARNAGE'S GANG LIKE THE COCKROACHES THEY ARE!
BUT, REMEMBER--
KASADY
IS
MINE!!

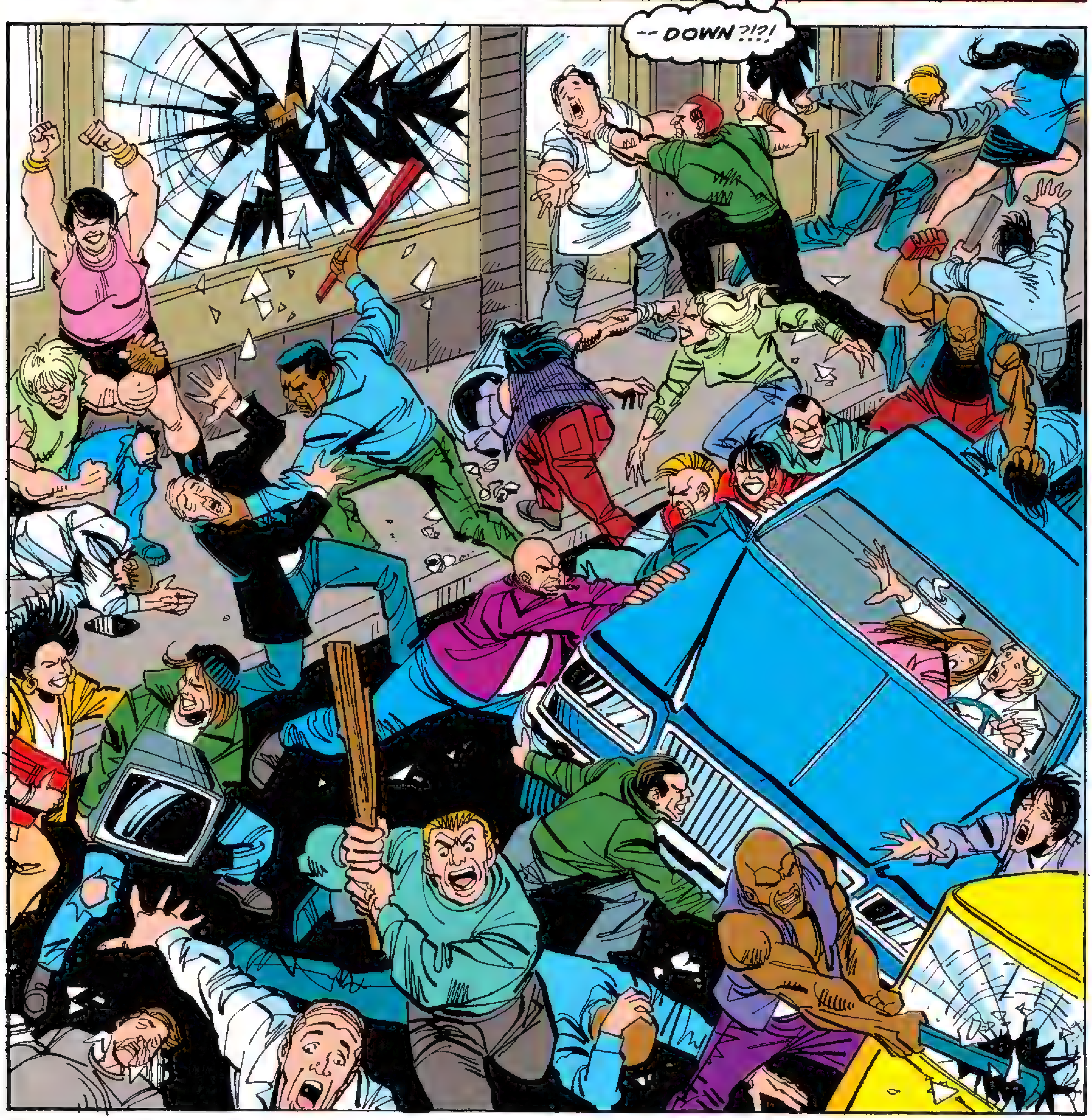

BUT, HONEY-- I'D HEARD THIS WAS A *WONDERFUL* RESTAURANT!
WONDERFUL? TOFU AND STEAMED VEGETABLES?! YOU CALL *THAT* "WONDERFUL"?!
UH...SIR...IF YOU DON'T *LIKE* IT... I'LL...AH...G-GLADLY TAKE IT BACK TO THE KITCHEN--
DON'T BOTHER, PUNK. AS THE ROMANS OFTEN OBSERVED: IF YOU DON'T LIKE THE *FOOD*--
--*KILL THE WAITER!!*
KRASH!
SORRY YOU WERE *DISAPPOINTED*, HONEY-- BUT LOTS OF THE BAND-GUYS I USED TO HANG AROUND WITH IN MY GROUPIE DAYS USED TO *EAT* HERE--
DON'T SWEAT IT, SWEETCAKES-- I HAD *FUN* SLICING AND DICING ALL THE CUSTOMERS!
BUT IF WE DON'T FIND ME SOMETHING TO EAT *SOON*... I'M GONNA GET ALL *HYPOGLYCEMIC*--
--AND WHEN *THAT* HAPPENS... WELL, I START TO GET *REAL* TESTY!
WHY ARE WE WASTING OUR *TIME* HERE? WORD OF OUR COMING HAS *SPREAD*...THE STREETS ARE *NEAR-DESERTED!* THE SINNERS ARE IN *HIDING!*
WE MUST ROOT THEM *OUT!* MAKE THEM *SUFFER!* MAKE THEM *BURN!*
FOR ONCE, VINCENT PRICE HERE IS *RIGHT!* WE'VE GOTTA FIND SOME GREENER *PASTURES!*
HUNGH!
YOU KEEP *OUTTA* THIS!
DON'T *YELL* AT THE BOY, DEAR.
SORRY, SNOOKUMS! IT'S JUST THAT SOMETIMES, BEING A FATHER IS SUCH A *THANKLESS* JOB!
THEN LET'S DO SOMETHING TO CHEER YOU *UP!*
GOLFING?
NOPE.
A HIKE IN THE COUNTRY?
NUH-UH.
SLAUGHTER AND MAYHEM?
BINGO!


THEN LET'S GATHER UP THE KIDDIES, GET TO THE STATION WAGON... AND BE ON OUR *WAY!*
Y'KNOW, CARNIE... I'M REALLY BEGINNING TO *LIKE* FAMILY LIFE!
ME, *TOO!* NOW I KNOW WHAT I WAS *MISSING* ALL THOSE YEARS IN THE *ORPHANAGE!*
WELL, HONEY-- IF BEING A HUBBY AND DADDY *REALLY* TURNS YOU ON--
ON
--MAYBE WE SHOULD HAVE A FEW MORE *KIDS!*
...SEEING DAD LIKE THAT MADE ME REALIZE THE KIND OF *PAIN* HE AND MOM HAVE BEEN CARRYING AROUND SINCE THEY CAME BACK INTO MY LIFE!
I'VE BEEN SO BUSY WORRYING ABOUT *MY* FEELINGS-- THAT I HAVEN'T REALLY TAKEN TIME TO CONSIDER WHAT *THEY* WERE GOING THROUGH!
THE *LOOK* IN RICHARD'S EYES! HE REALLY *MUST* HAVE GONE THROUGH A LIVING HELL FOR IT TO HAVE LEFT HIM SO ANGRY... SO UNBELIEVABLY *BITTER!*
I CAN'T BLAME HIM FOR SEEING THE WORLD THROUGH SUCH A *DISTORTED* MIRROR!
BUT--WHAT IF IT'S *NOT* SO DISTORTED? WHAT IF HE'S *RIGHT* ABOUT HUMAN NATURE? LET'S FACE IT--
--CARNAGE AND SHRIEK ARE A PRETTY STRONG ARGUMENT IN HIS *FAVOR!*

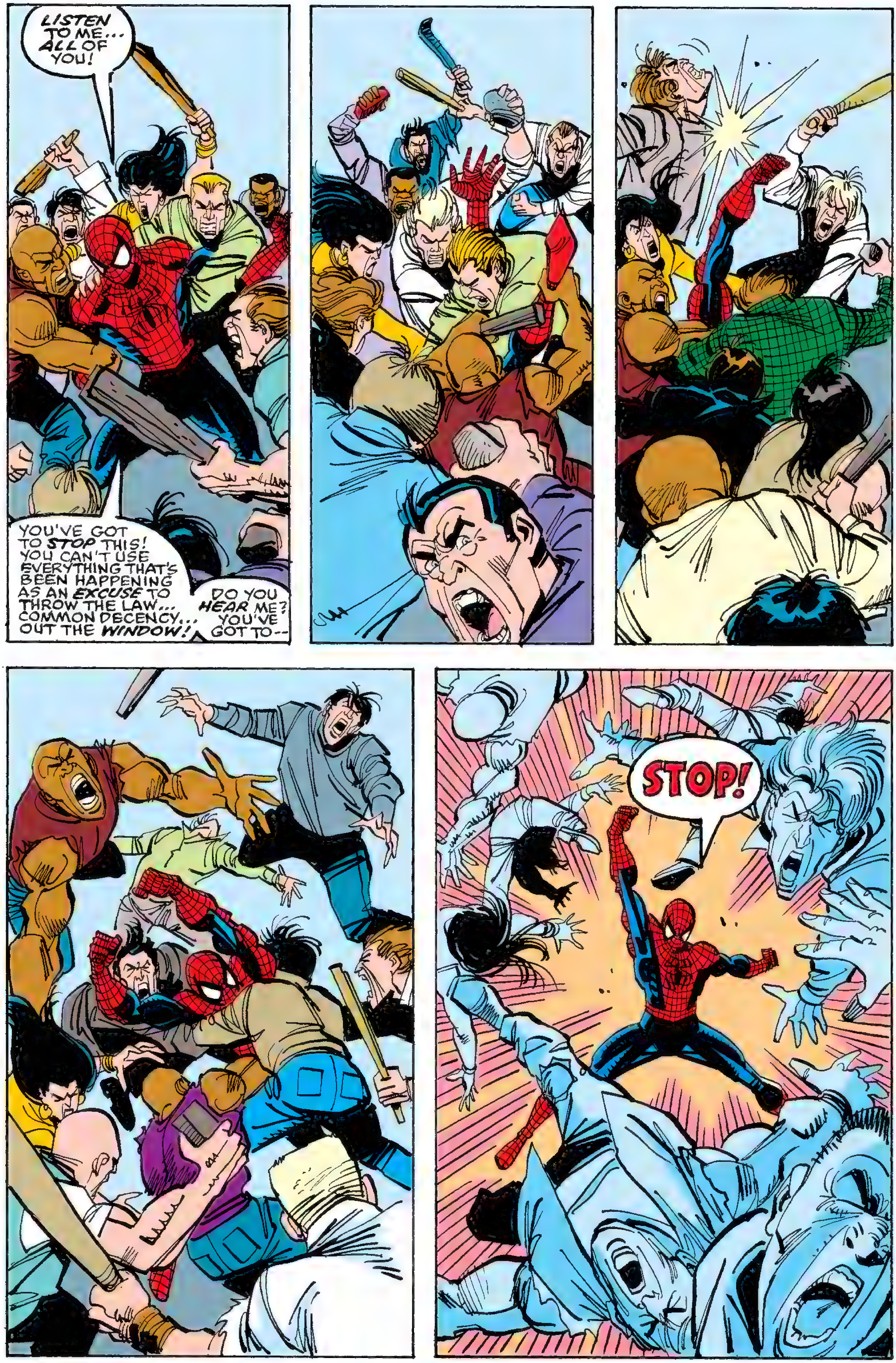

NO! I REFUSE TO ACCEPT THAT!
I'VE WEATHERED A LOT OF HARD TIMES ... BEEN FACE-TO-FACE WITH MY OWN FAIR SHARE OF DEVILS --
-- AND I'VE MANAGED TO STAY TRUE TO UNCLE BEN'S FAITH IN PEOPLE!
SURE, THERE ARE SOME REALLY TWISTED SOULS OUT THERE -- THE KRAVENS AND DOC OCKS AND VENOMS --

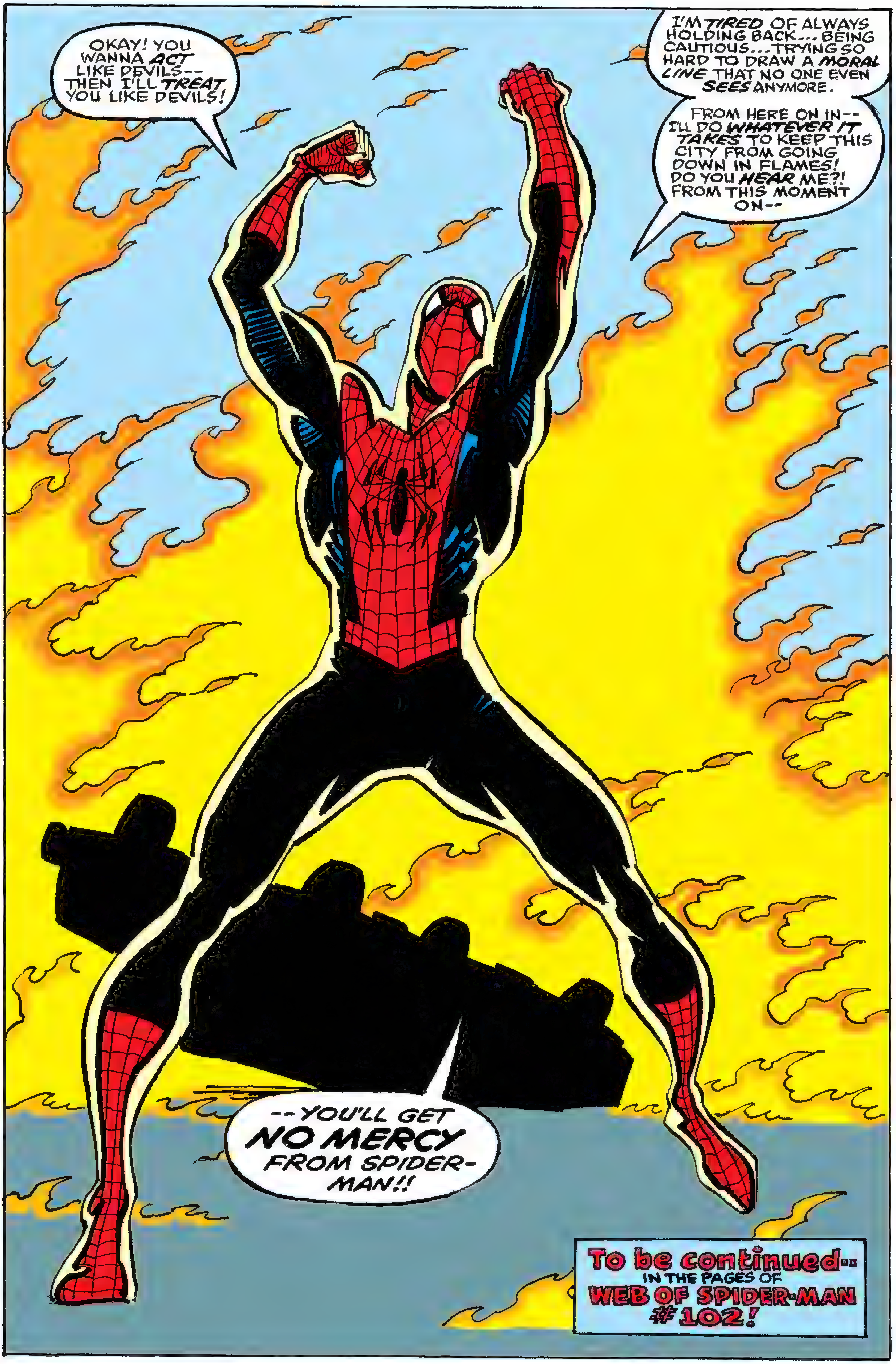

-- BUT THE AVERAGE PEOPLE I'VE DEDICATED MY LIFE TO PROTECTING --
-- THE AUNT MAYS AND UNCLE BENS OF THE WORLD --


-- HAVE NEVER LET ME --


-- DOWN?!?!

P-PLEASE... STOP! YOU'RE-- KILLING ME--!
THAT'S THE GENERAL IDEA, PAL! NOW YOU JUST LAY THERE NICE 'N' QUIET--
--WHILE I--
THWIP
??!!
WHILE YOU GET YOUR LIGHTS PUNCHED OUT!
THWOK!
DON'T WORRY! I'LL GET YOU TO A HOSPITAL!
NO...CHANCE! THE WHOLE CITY'S GOING CRAZY!
SINCE THAT NUT CARNAGE HAS BEEN LOOSE...IT'S LIKE EVERY BLOODTHIRSTY LUNATIC IN NEW YORK... HAS COME CRAWLING OUT OF HIS HOLE--!
YOU CAN'T STOP THEM! NOBODY CAN STOP THEM!
HE'S RIGHT ABOUT ONE THING--IT'S AS IF ALL THESE CRAZIES HAVE BEEN ...INSPIRED BY CARNAGE! AS IF JUST SEEING HIM IN ACTION HAS SET LOOSE THE DARKEST PARTS OF THEIR PSYCHES!
AND IF THIS RESPONSE IS REALLY STARTING TO SPREAD--
--THEN NOBODY'S SAFE!


LISTEN TO ME... ALL OF YOU!
YOU'VE GOT TO STOP THIS! YOU CAN'T USE EVERYTHING THAT'S BEEN HAPPENING AS AN EXCUSE TO THROW THE LAW... COMMON DECENCY... OUT THE WINDOW!
DO YOU HEAR ME? YOU'VE GOT TO--
STOP!


OKAY! YOU WANNA *ACT* LIKE DEVILS-- THEN I'LL *TREAT* YOU LIKE DEVILS!
I'M *TIRED* OF ALWAYS HOLDING BACK... BEING CAUTIOUS... TRYING SO HARD TO DRAW A *MORAL LINE* THAT NO ONE EVEN *SEES* ANYMORE.
FROM HERE ON IN-- I'LL DO *WHATEVER IT TAKES* TO KEEP THIS CITY FROM GOING DOWN IN FLAMES! DO YOU *HEAR* ME?! FROM THIS MOMENT ON--
--YOU'LL GET **NO MERCY** FROM SPIDER-MAN!!
To be continued.. IN THE PAGES OF WEB OF SPIDER-MAN #102!

MARVEL COMICS
MAXIMUM CARNAGE™
PART 6 OF 14
WEB OF SPIDER-MAN®
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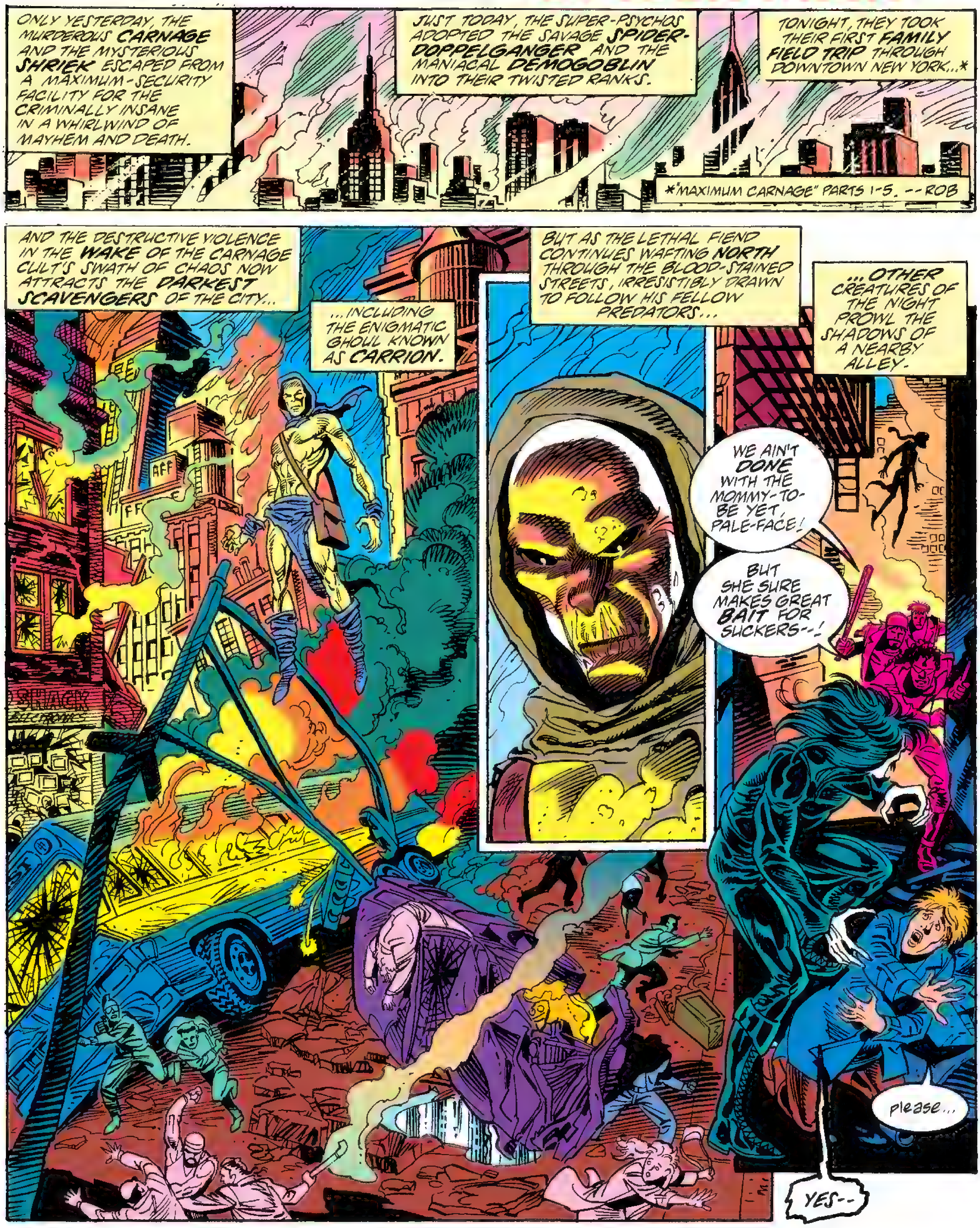
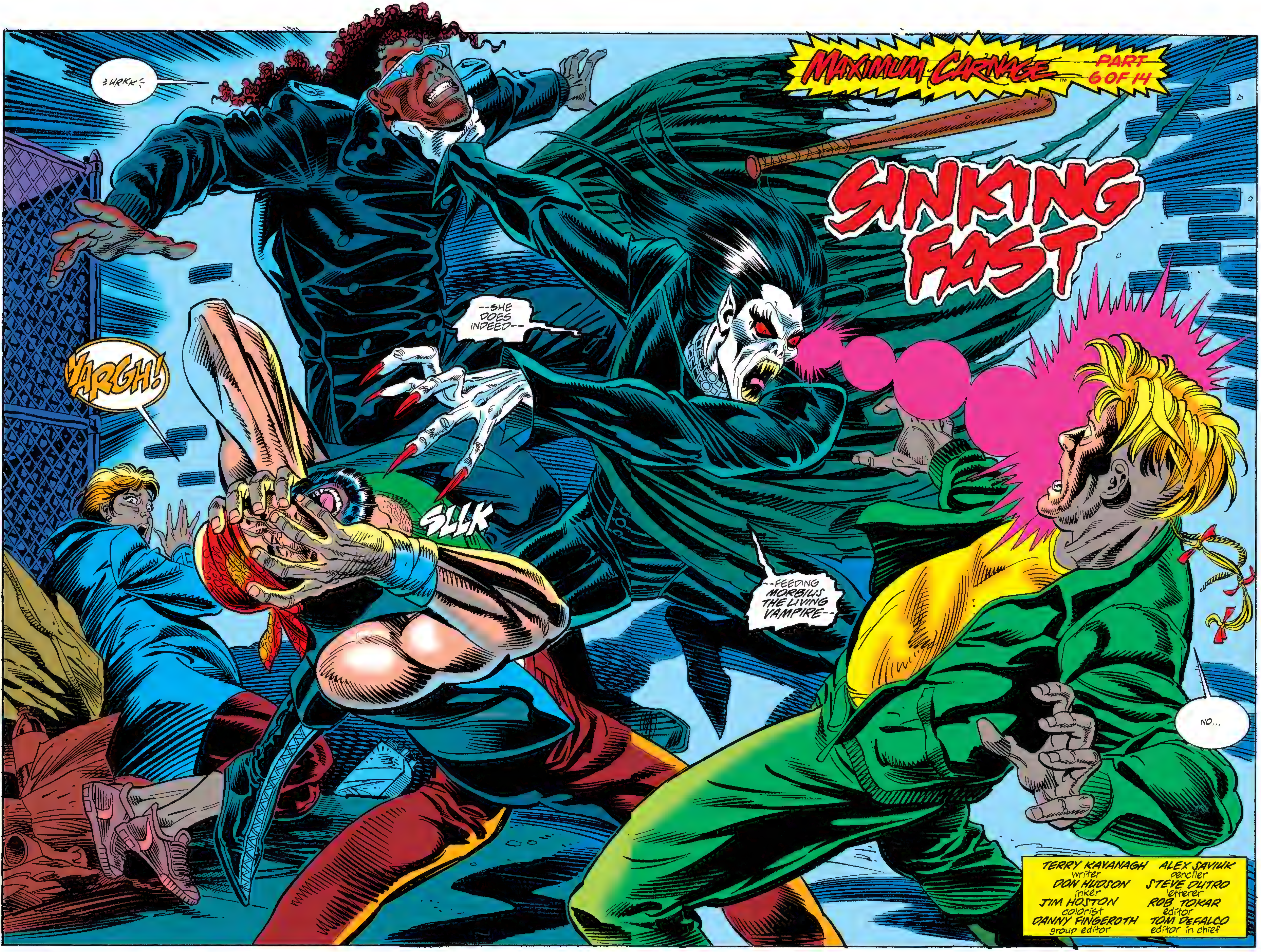
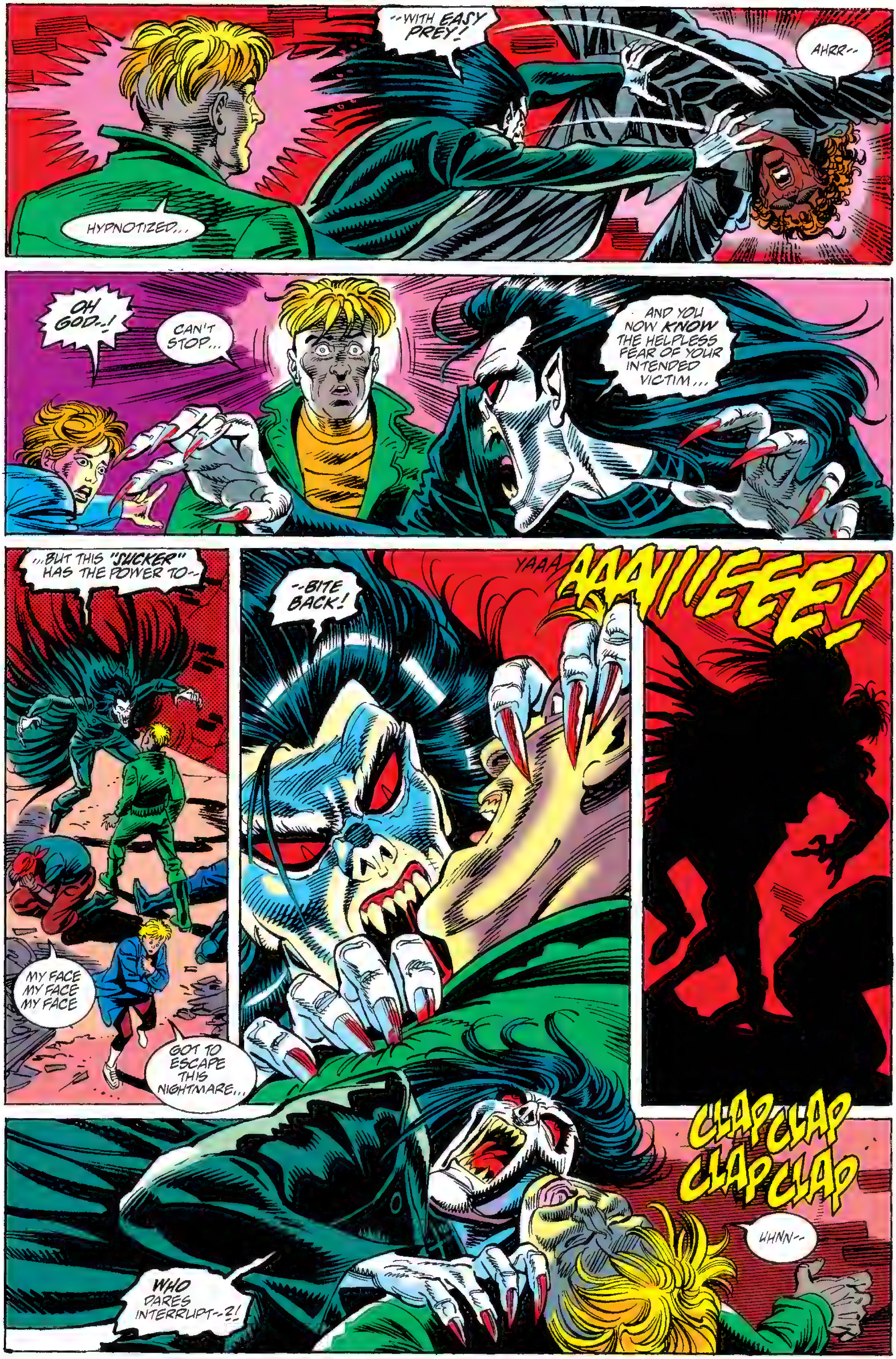
AS

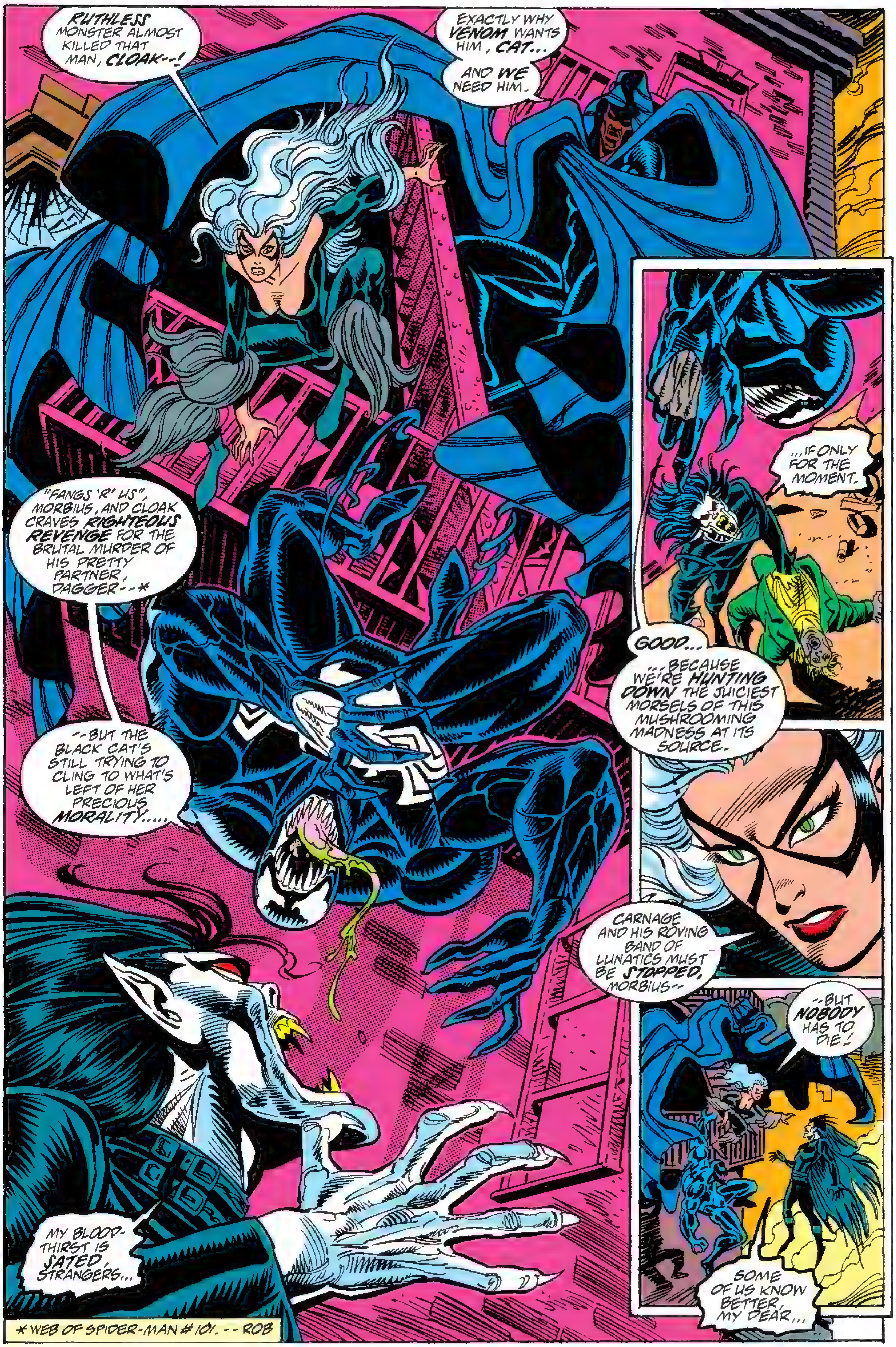
BITTEN BY A RADIOACTIVE SPIDER, STUDENT* PETER PARKER *GAINED THE PROPORTIONATE STRENGTH AND AGILITY OF AN ARACHNID! ARMED WITH HIS WONDROUS WEB-SHOOTERS, THE RELUCTANT SUPER HERO STRUGGLES WITH SINISTER SUPER-VILLAINS, MAKING ENDS MEET, AND MAINTAINING SOME SEMBLANCE OF A NORMAL LIFE!

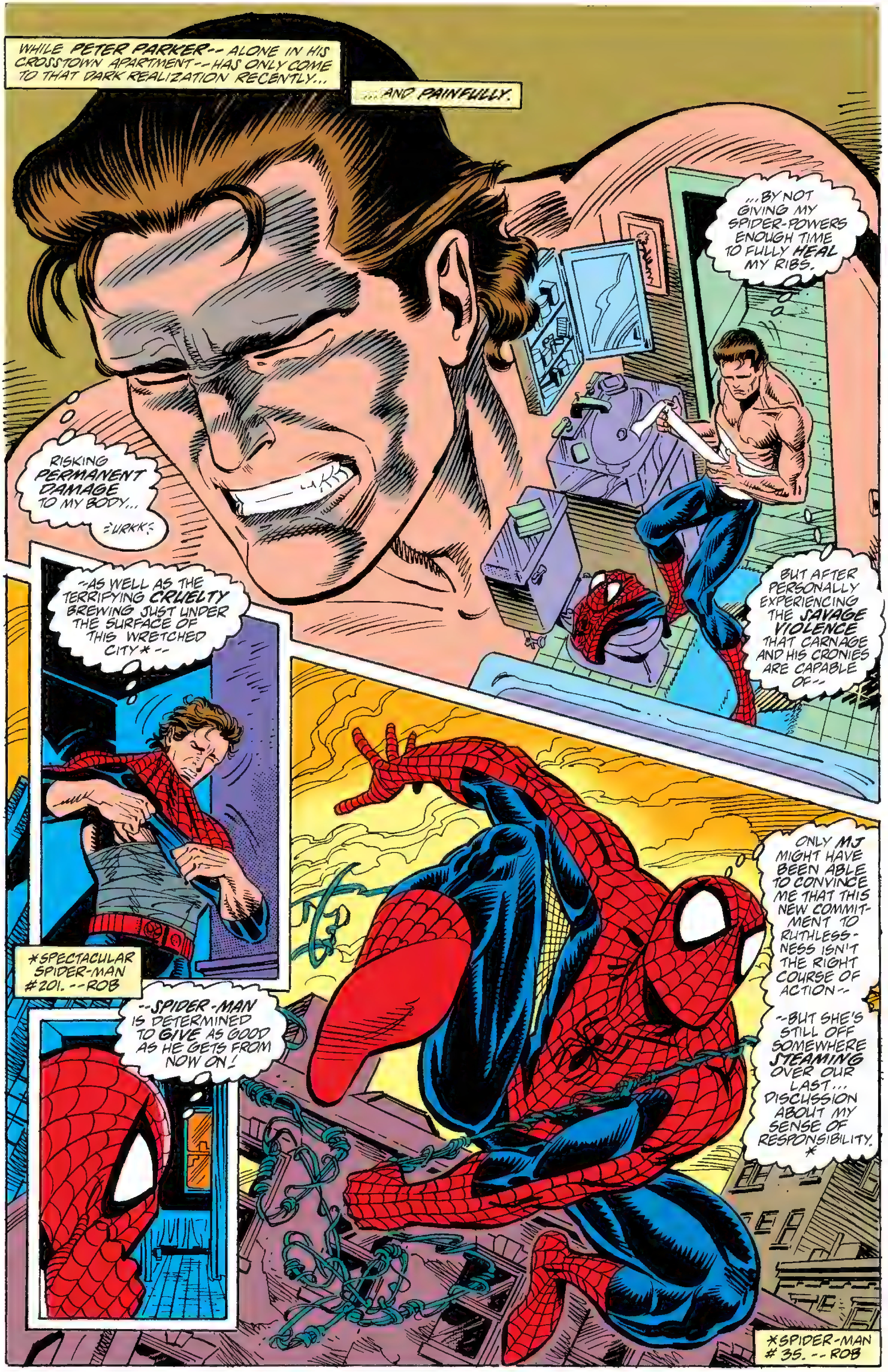
Stan Lee PRESENTS: WEB OF SPIDER-MAN™

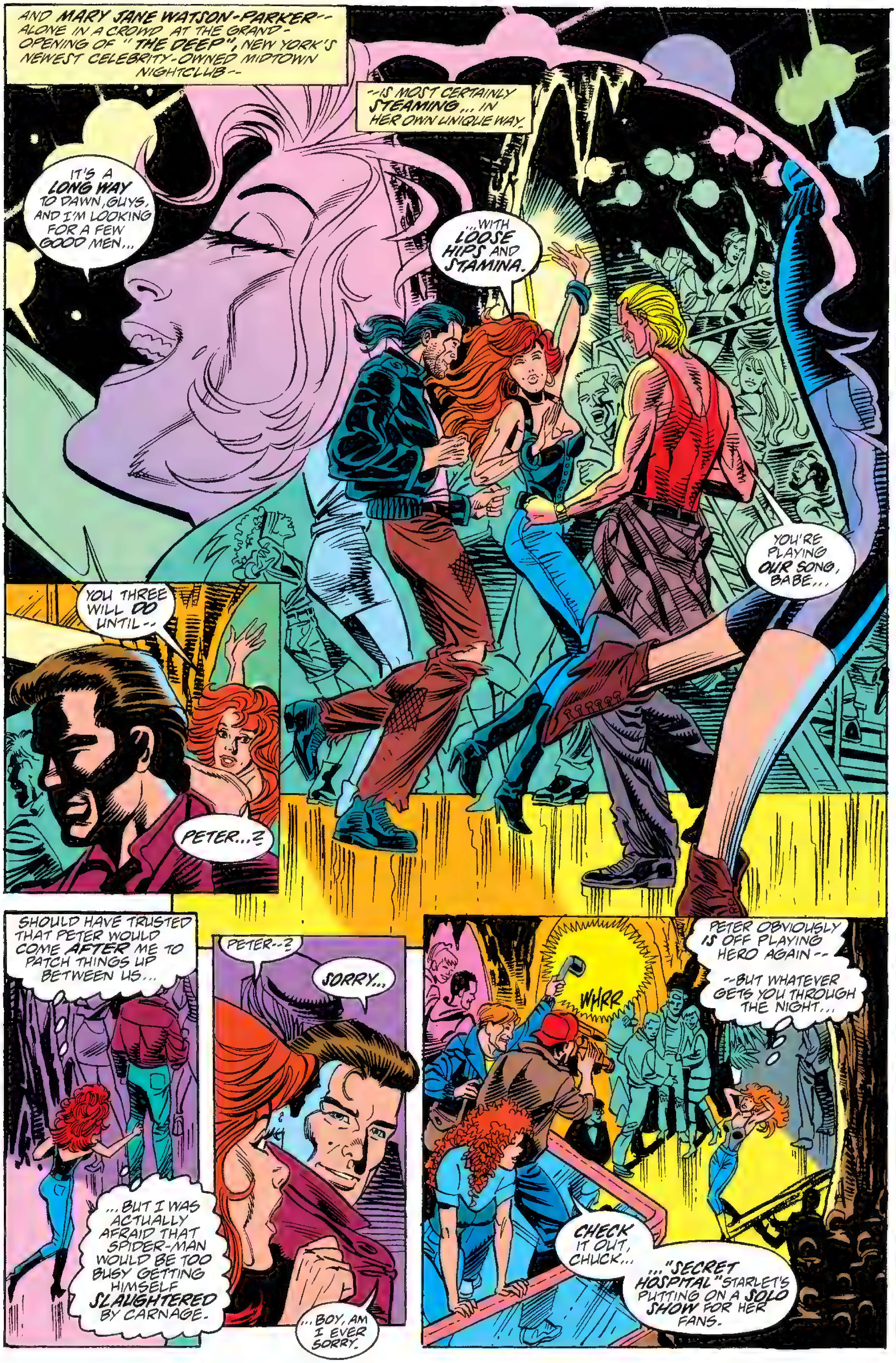

ONLY YESTERDAY, THE MURDEROUS **CARNAGE** AND THE MYSTERIOUS **SHRIEK** ESCAPED FROM A MAXIMUM-SECURITY FACILITY FOR THE CRIMINALLY INSANE IN A WHIRLWIND OF MAYHEM AND DEATH.
JUST TODAY, THE SUPER-PSYCHOS ADOPTED THE SAVAGE **SPIDER-DOPPELGANGER** AND THE MANIACAL **DEMOGOBLIN** INTO THEIR TWISTED RANKS.
TONIGHT, THEY TOOK THEIR FIRST **FAMILY FIELD TRIP** THROUGH DOWNTOWN NEW YORK...*
*"MAXIMUM CARNAGE" PARTS 1-5. --ROB
AND THE DESTRUCTIVE VIOLENCE IN THE **WAKE** OF THE CARNAGE CULT'S SWATH OF CHAOS NOW ATTRACTS THE **DARKEST SCAVENGERS** OF THE CITY...
...INCLUDING THE ENIGMATIC GHOUL KNOWN AS **CARRION**.
BUT AS THE LETHAL FIEND CONTINUES WAFTING **NORTH** THROUGH THE BLOOD-STAINED STREETS, IRRESISTIBLY DRAWN TO FOLLOW HIS FELLOW PREDATORS...
...OTHER CREATURES OF THE NIGHT PROWL THE SHADOWS OF A NEARBY ALLEY.
WE AIN'T **DONE** WITH THE MOMMY-TO-BE YET, PALE-FACE!
BUT SHE SURE MAKES GREAT **BAIT** FOR SUCKERS--!
please...
YES--
SHACK
ELECTRONICS

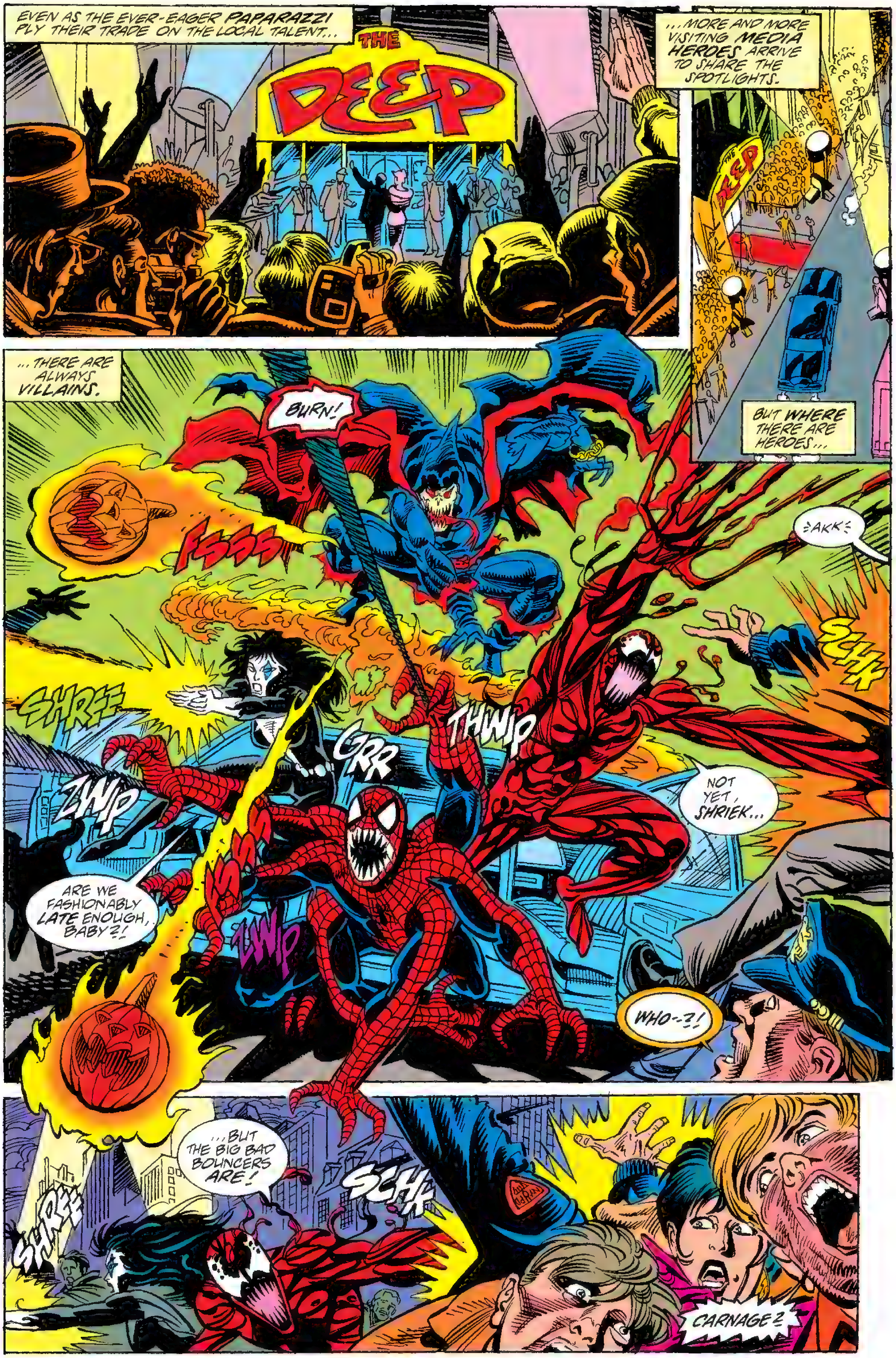
MAXIMUM CARNAGE™
PART 6 OF 14
SINKING FAST
URKK
YARGH!
--SHE DOES INDEED--
SLLK
--FEEDING MORBIUS THE LIVING VAMPIRE--
NO...
TERRY KAVANAGH writer
ALEX SAVIUK penciler
DON HUDSON inker
STEVE DUTRO letterer
JIM HOSTON colorist
ROB TOKAR editor
DANNY FINGEROTH group editor
TOM DEFALCO editor in chief

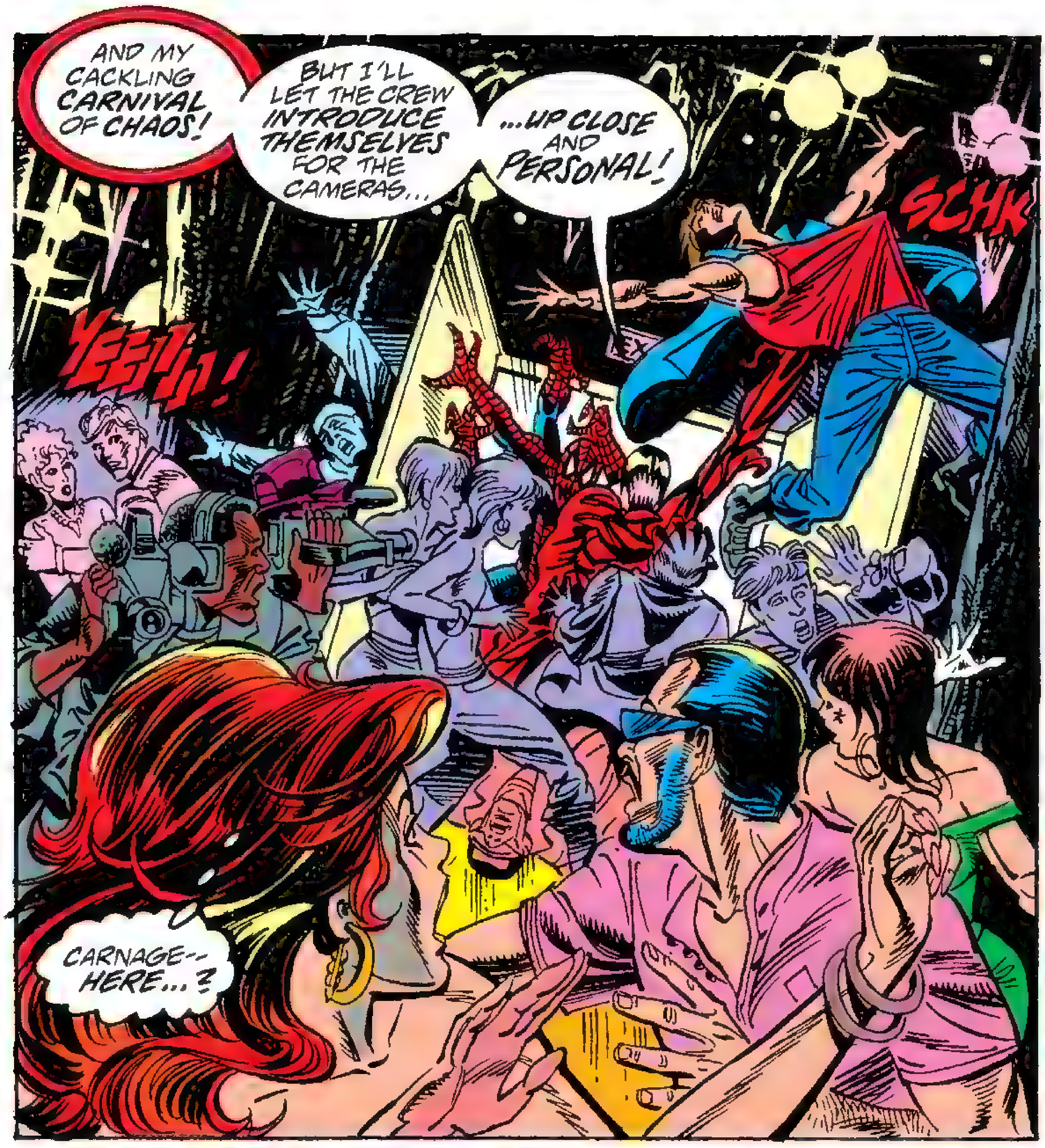

--WITH EASY PREY!
AHRR--
HYPNOTIZED...
OH GOD..!
CAN'T STOP...
AND YOU NOW KNOW THE HELPLESS FEAR OF YOUR INTENDED VICTIM...
...BUT THIS "SUCKER" HAS THE POWER TO--
MY FACE MY FACE MY FACE
GOT TO ESCAPE THIS NIGHTMARE...
--BITE BACK!
YAAAAAAAIIEEE!
CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP
UHNN--
WHO DARES INTERRUPT--?!

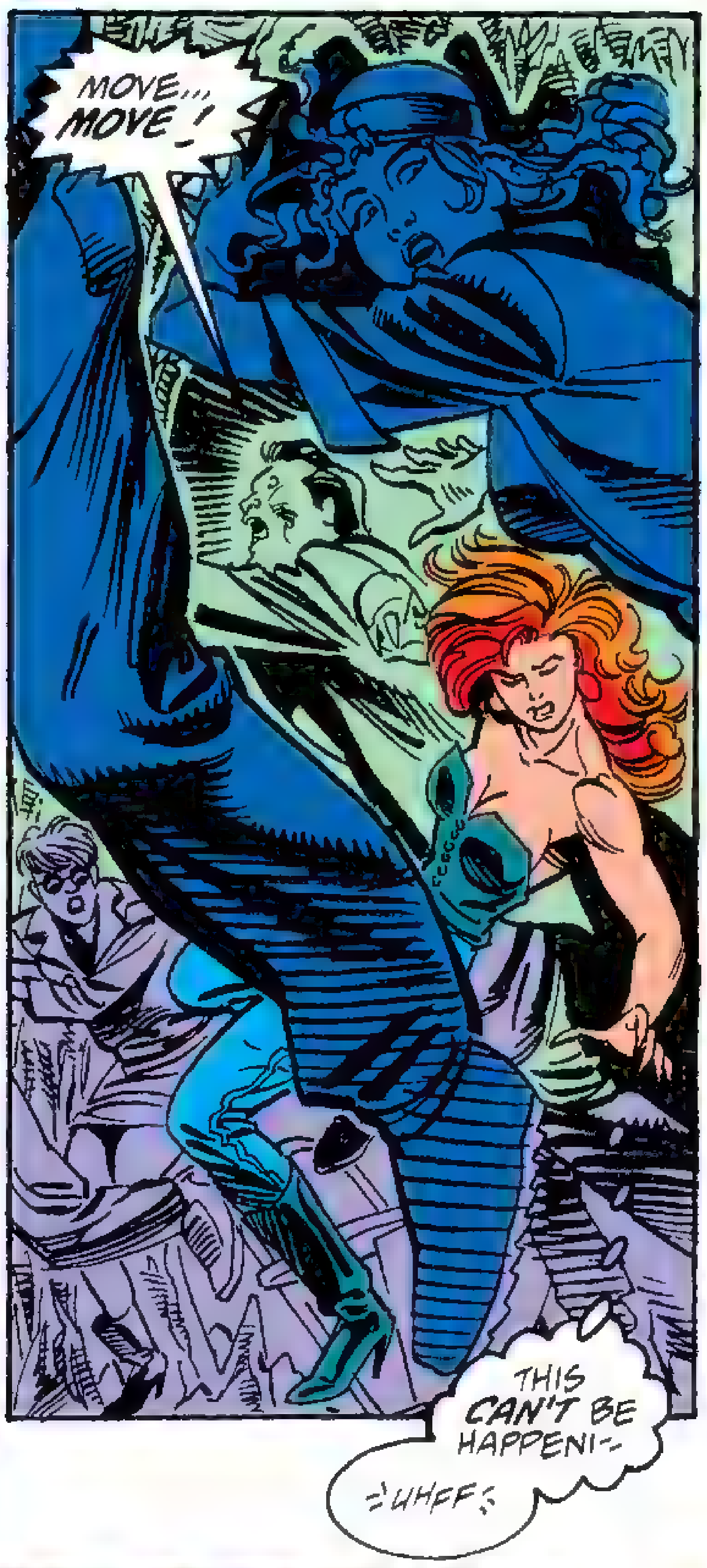

RUTHLESS MONSTER ALMOST KILLED THAT MAN, CLOAK--!
EXACTLY WHY VENOM WANTS HIM, CAT...
AND WE NEED HIM.
"FANGS 'R' US", MORBIUS, AND CLOAK CRAVES RIGHTEOUS REVENGE FOR THE BRUTAL MURDER OF HIS PRETTY PARTNER, DAGGER--*
--BUT THE BLACK CAT'S STILL TRYING TO CLING TO WHAT'S LEFT OF HER PRECIOUS MORALITY.....
MY BLOOD-THIRST IS SATED, STRANGERS...
* WEB OF SPIDER-MAN # 101. -- ROB
...IF ONLY FOR THE MOMENT.
GOOD...
...BECAUSE WE'RE HUNTING DOWN THE JUICIEST MORSELS OF THIS MUSHROOMING MADNESS AT ITS SOURCE.
CARNAGE AND HIS ROVING BAND OF LUNATICS MUST BE STOPPED, MORBIUS--
--BUT NOBODY HAS TO DIE!
SOME OF US KNOW BETTER, MY DEAR...

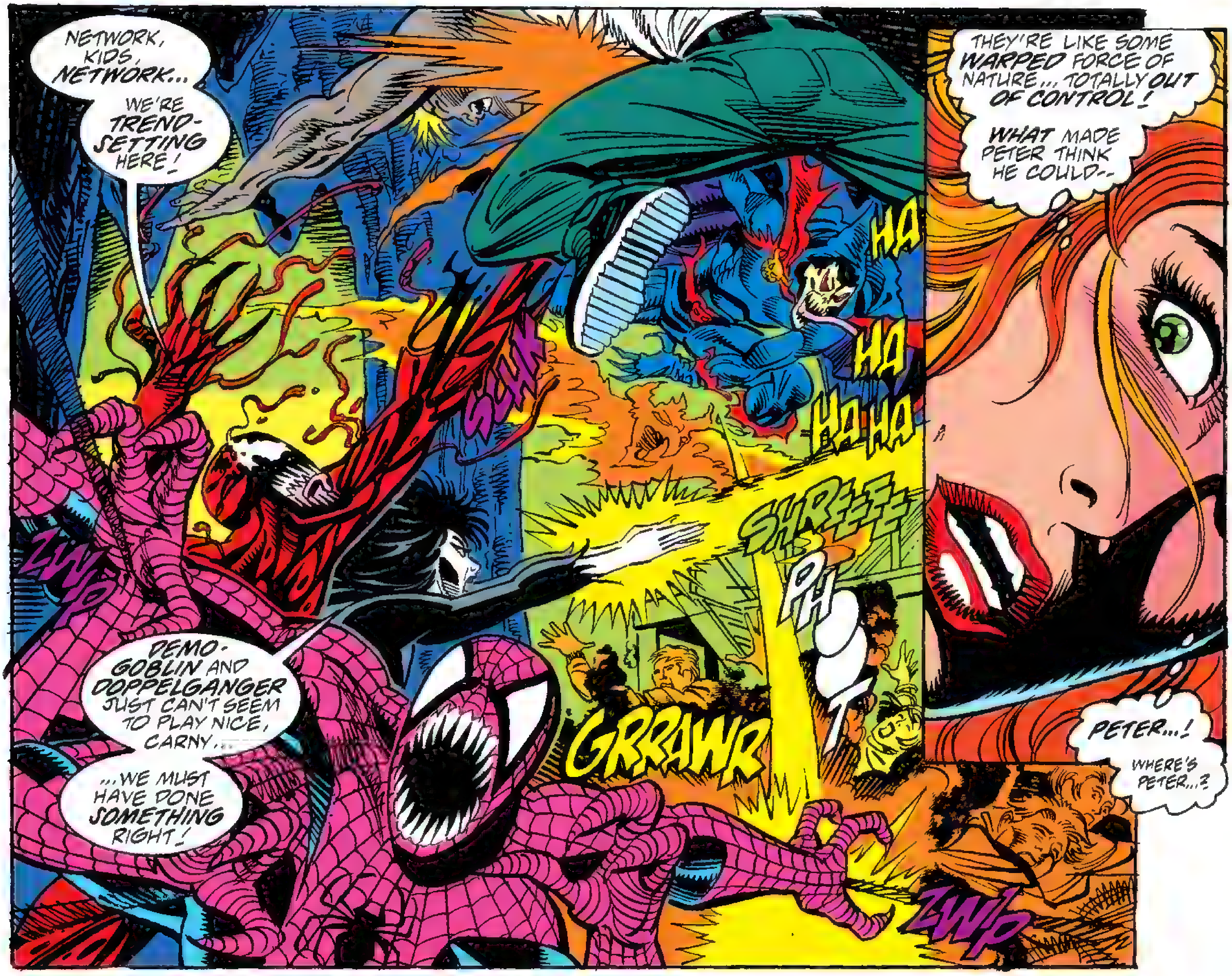

WHILE **PETER PARKER**-- ALONE IN HIS CROSSTOWN APARTMENT--HAS ONLY COME TO THAT DARK REALIZATION RECENTLY...
...AND **PAINFULLY.**
RISKING **PERMANENT DAMAGE** TO MY BODY...
≈URKK≈
...BY NOT GIVING MY SPIDER-POWERS ENOUGH TIME TO FULLY **HEAL** MY RIBS.
BUT AFTER PERSONALLY EXPERIENCING THE **SAVAGE VIOLENCE** THAT CARNAGE AND HIS CRONIES ARE CAPABLE OF--
--AS WELL AS THE TERRIFYING **CRUELTY** BREWING JUST UNDER THE SURFACE OF THIS WRETCHED CITY* --
*SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #201. --ROB
--**SPIDER-MAN** IS DETERMINED TO **GIVE** AS GOOD AS HE GETS FROM NOW ON!
ONLY **MJ** MIGHT HAVE BEEN ABLE TO CONVINCE ME THAT THIS NEW COMMITMENT TO RUTHLESSNESS ISN'T THE RIGHT COURSE OF ACTION--
--BUT SHE'S STILL OFF SOMEWHERE **STEAMING** OVER OUR LAST... DISCUSSION ABOUT MY SENSE OF RESPONSIBILITY. *
*SPIDER-MAN #35. --ROB

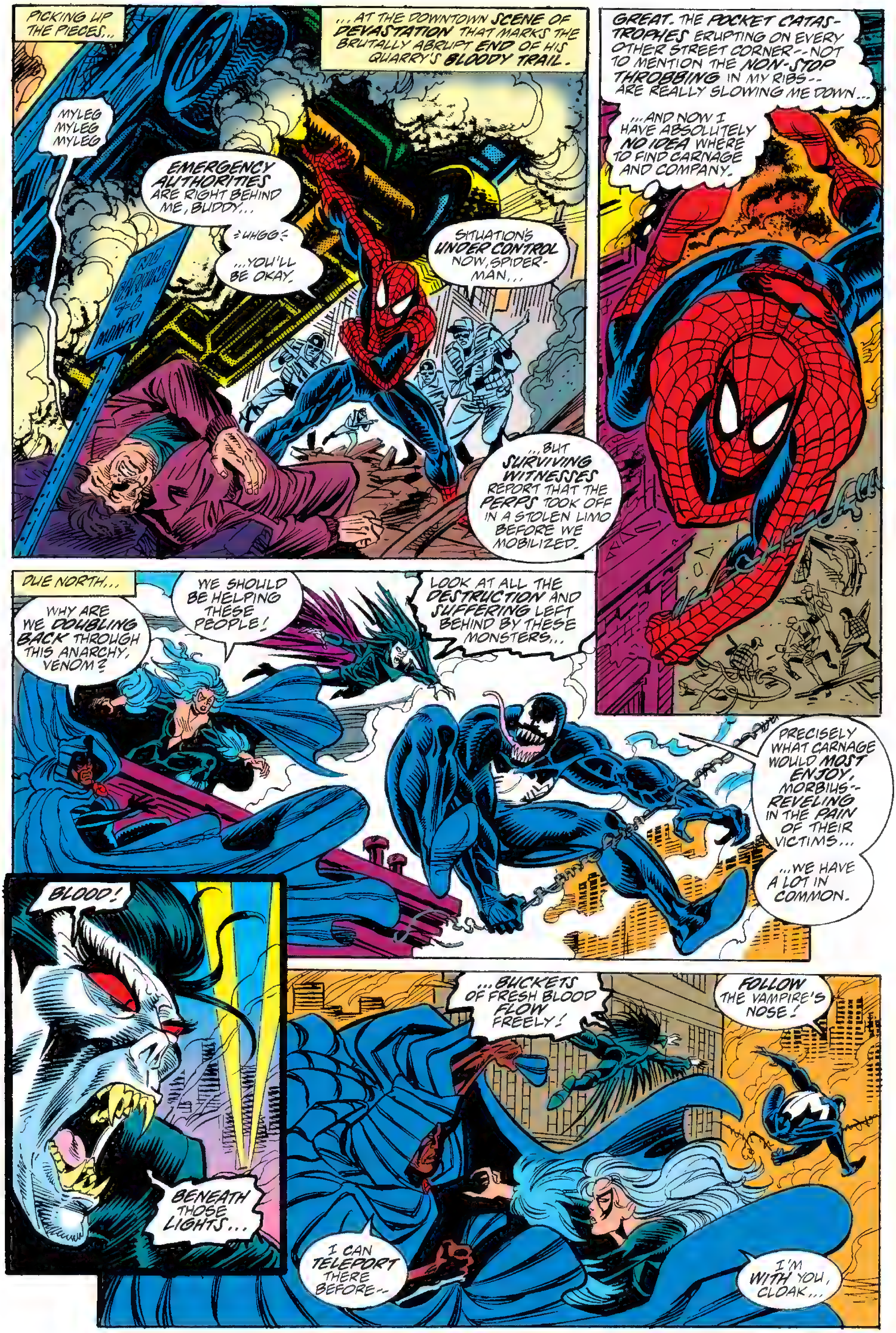

AND MARY JANE WATSON-PARKER-- ALONE IN A CROWD AT THE GRAND-OPENING OF "THE DEEP", NEW YORK'S NEWEST CELEBRITY-OWNED MIDTOWN NIGHTCLUB--
--IS MOST CERTAINLY STEAMING... IN HER OWN UNIQUE WAY.
IT'S A LONG WAY TO DAWN, GUYS, AND I'M LOOKING FOR A FEW GOOD MEN...
...WITH LOOSE HIPS AND STAMINA.
YOU'RE PLAYING OUR SONG, BABE...
YOU THREE WILL DO UNTIL--
PETER...?
SHOULD HAVE TRUSTED THAT PETER WOULD COME AFTER ME TO PATCH THINGS UP BETWEEN US...
...BUT I WAS ACTUALLY AFRAID THAT SPIDER-MAN WOULD BE TOO BUSY GETTING HIMSELF SLAUGHTERED BY CARNAGE.
PETER--?
SORRY...
...BOY, AM I EVER SORRY.
PETER OBVIOUSLY IS OFF PLAYING HERO AGAIN--
--BUT WHATEVER GETS YOU THROUGH THE NIGHT...
WHRR
CHECK IT OUT, CHUCK...
..."SECRET HOSPITAL" STARLET'S PUTTING ON A SOLO SHOW FOR HER FANS.

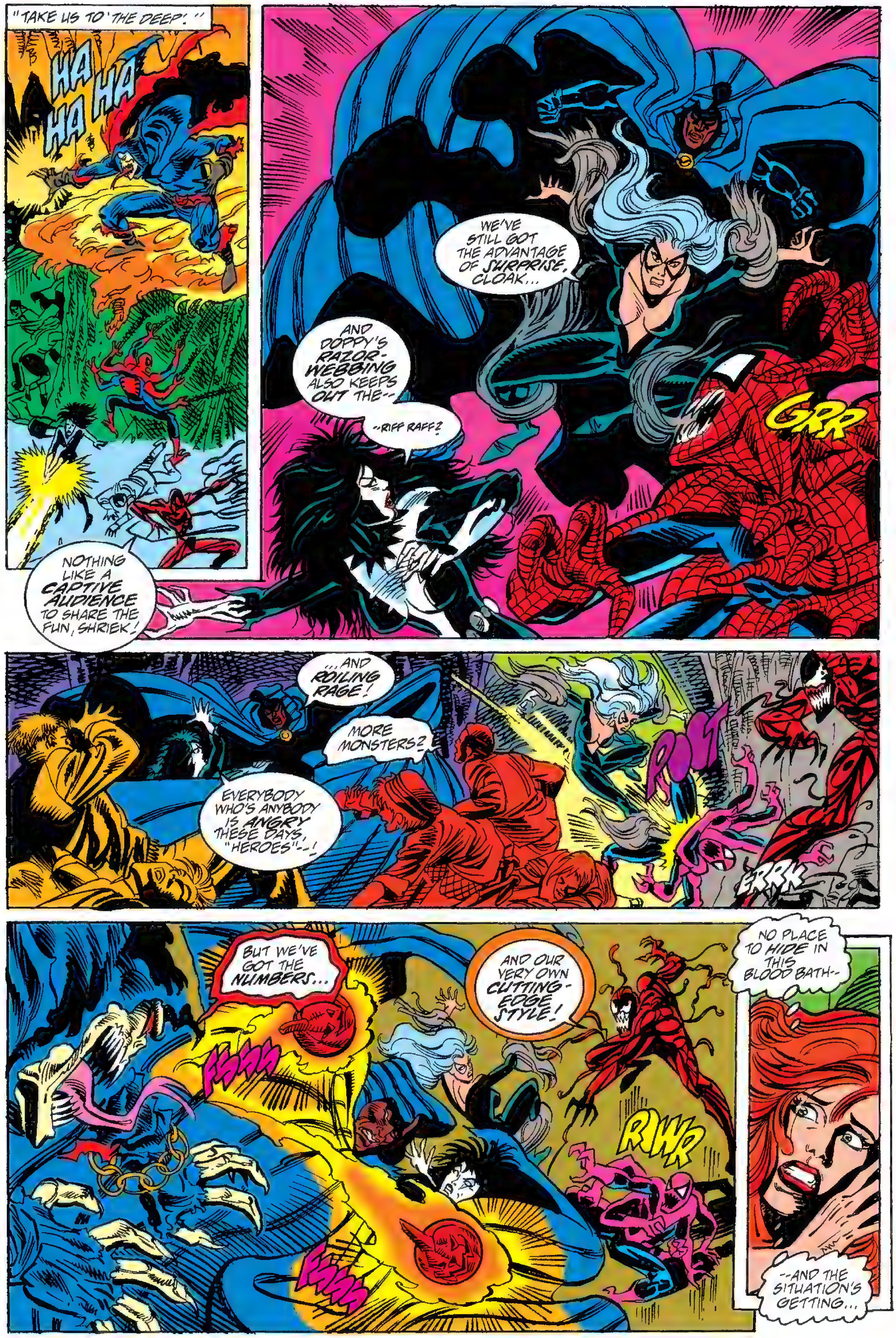

EVEN AS THE EVER-EAGER PAPARAZZI PLY THEIR TRADE ON THE LOCAL TALENT...
THE DEEP
...MORE AND MORE VISITING MEDIA HEROES ARRIVE TO SHARE THE SPOTLIGHTS.
THE DEEP
BUT WHERE THERE ARE HEROES...
...THERE ARE ALWAYS VILLAINS.
BURN!
FSSS
AKK
SHREE
GRR
THWIP
ZWIP
SCHK
NOT YET, SHRIEK...
ARE WE FASHIONABLY LATE ENOUGH, BABY?!
ZWIP
WHO--?!
...BUT THE BIG BAD BOUNCERS ARE!
SCHK
SHREE
CARNAGE?

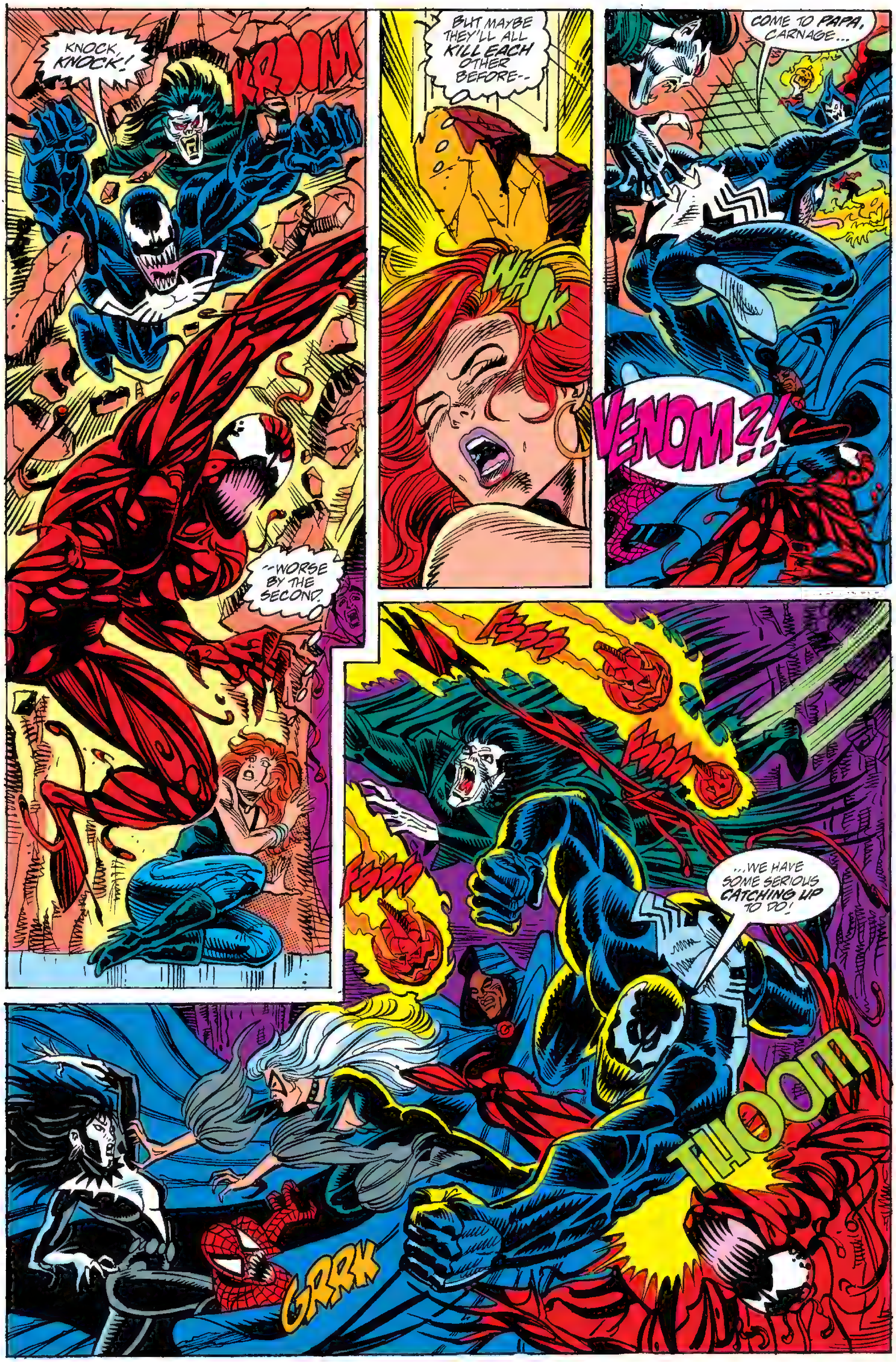

AND MY CACKLING CARNIVAL OF CHAOS!
BUT I'LL LET THE CREW INTRODUCE THEMSELVES FOR THE CAMERAS...
...UP CLOSE AND PERSONAL!
SCHK
YEEAAH!
CARNAGE-- HERE...?

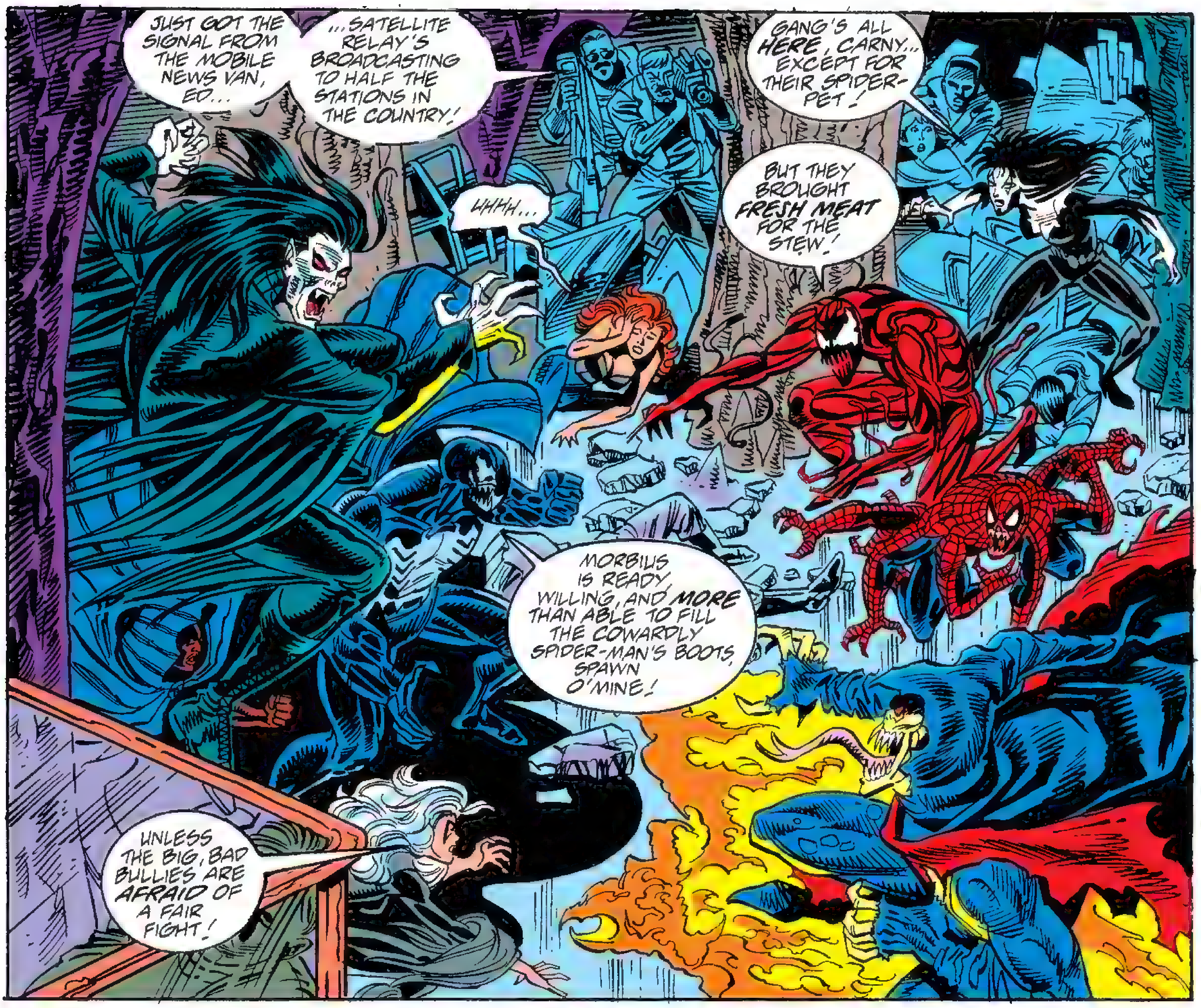

MOVE... MOVE!
THIS CAN'T BE HAPPENI--
UHFF

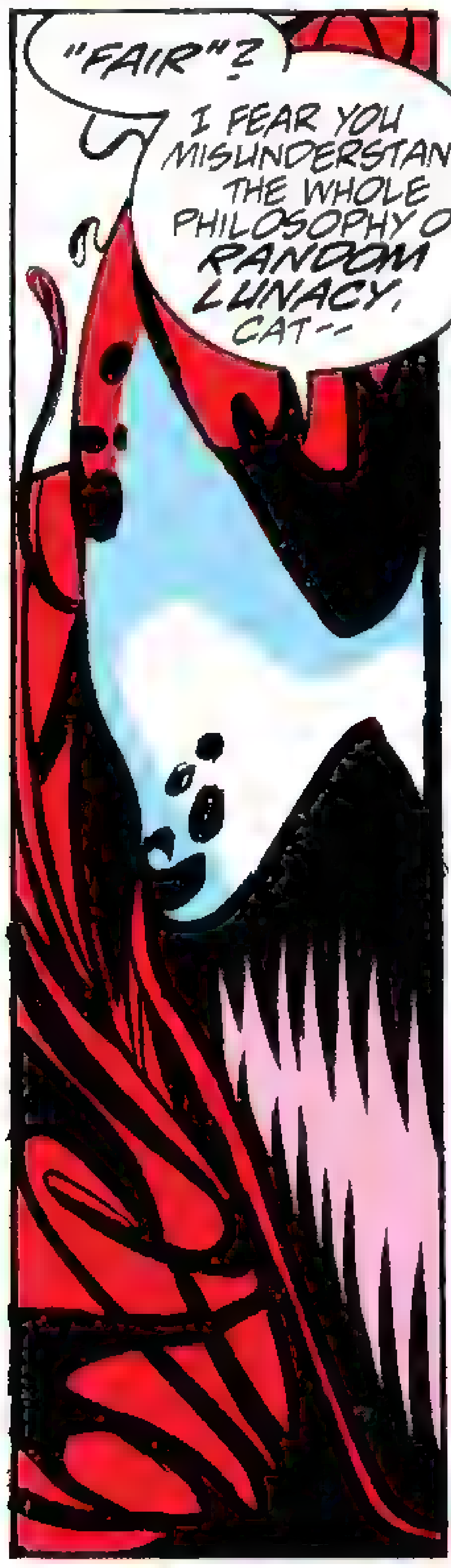

NETWORK, KIDS, NETWORK...
WE'RE TREND-SETTING HERE!
THEY'RE LIKE SOME WARPED FORCE OF NATURE... TOTALLY OUT OF CONTROL!
WHAT MADE PETER THINK HE COULD--
HA
HA
HA HA
SLUK
SHREEE
PHOOT
ZWIP
DEMO-GOBLIN AND DOPPELGANGER JUST CAN'T SEEM TO PLAY NICE, CARNY...
...WE MUST HAVE DONE SOMETHING RIGHT!
GRRAWR
PETER...!
WHERE'S PETER...?
ZWIP

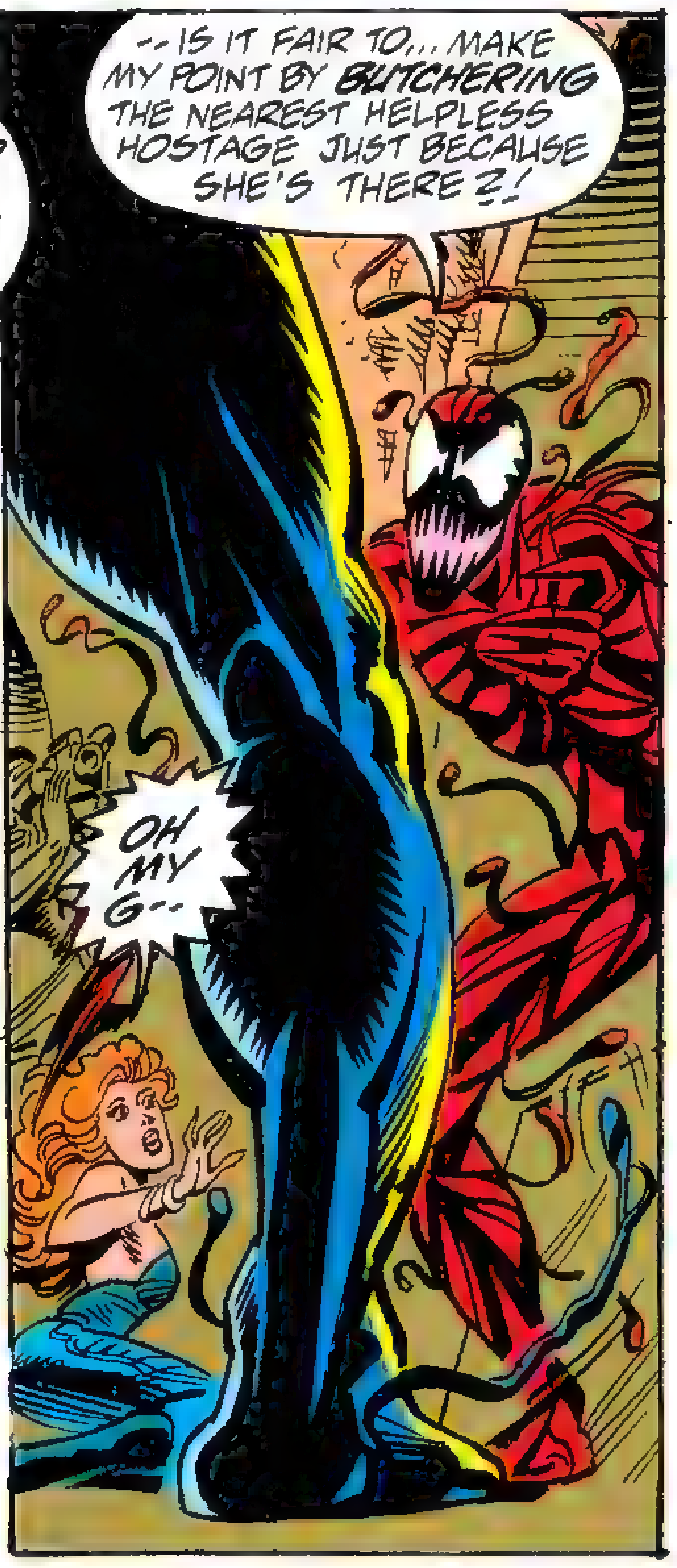

PICKING UP THE PIECES...
...AT THE DOWNTOWN SCENE OF DEVASTATION THAT MARKS THE BRUTALLY ABRUPT END OF HIS QUARRY'S BLOODY TRAIL.
MY LEG MY LEG MY LEG
EMERGENCY AUTHORITIES ARE RIGHT BEHIND ME, BUDDY...
=UHGG=
...YOU'LL BE OKAY.
SITUATION'S UNDER CONTROL NOW, SPIDER-MAN...
...BUT SURVIVING WITNESSES REPORT THAT THE PERPS TOOK OFF IN A STOLEN LIMO BEFORE WE MOBILIZED.
GREAT. THE POCKET CATASTROPHES ERUPTING ON EVERY OTHER STREET CORNER--NOT TO MENTION THE NON-STOP THROBBING IN MY RIBS--ARE REALLY SLOWING ME DOWN...
...AND NOW I HAVE ABSOLUTELY NO IDEA WHERE TO FIND CARNAGE AND COMPANY.
DUE NORTH...
WHY ARE WE DOUBLING BACK THROUGH THIS ANARCHY, VENOM?
WE SHOULD BE HELPING THESE PEOPLE!
LOOK AT ALL THE DESTRUCTION AND SUFFERING LEFT BEHIND BY THESE MONSTERS...
PRECISELY WHAT CARNAGE WOULD MOST ENJOY, MORBIUS--REVELING IN THE PAIN OF THEIR VICTIMS...
...WE HAVE A LOT IN COMMON.
BLOOD!
BENEATH THOSE LIGHTS...
...BUCKETS OF FRESH BLOOD FLOW FREELY!
FOLLOW THE VAMPIRE'S NOSE!
I CAN TELEPORT THERE BEFORE--
I'M WITH YOU, CLOAK...

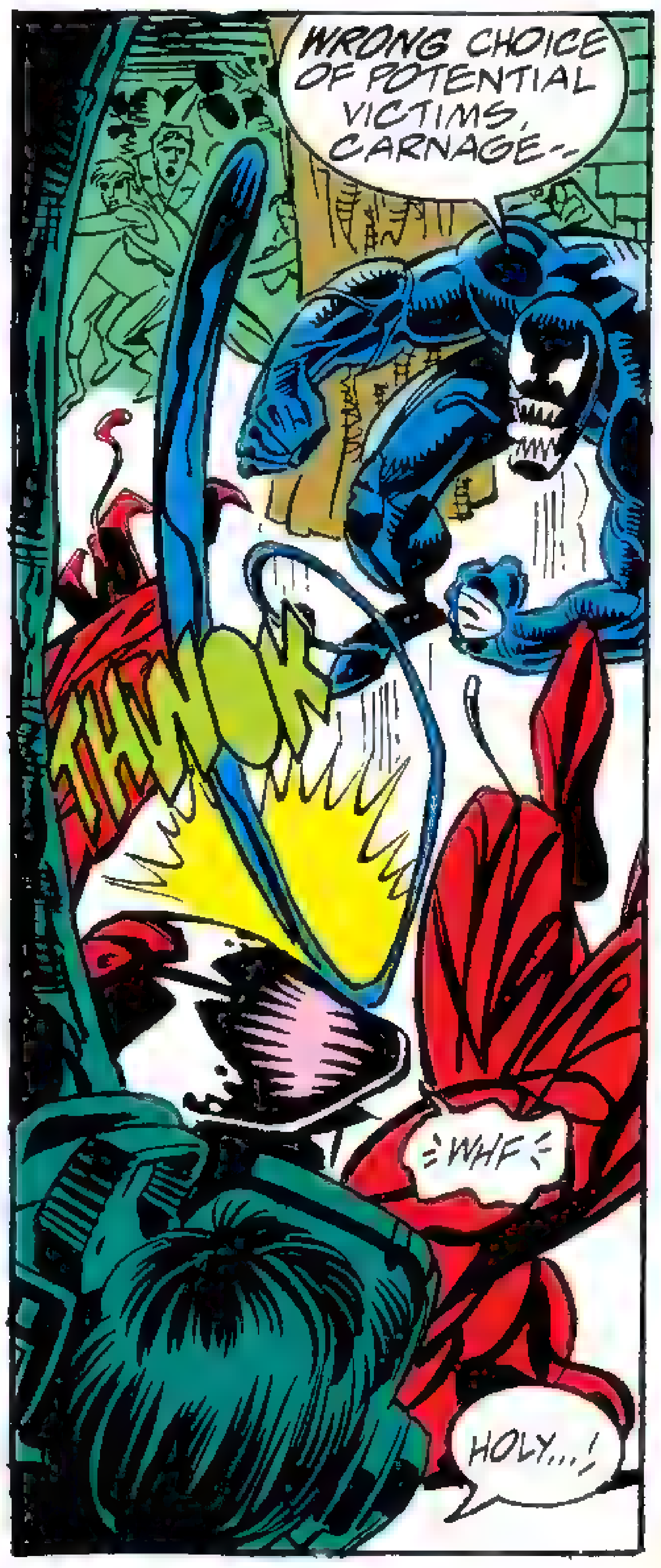

"TAKE US TO THE DEEP!"
HA HA HA HA
WE'VE STILL GOT THE ADVANTAGE OF SURPRISE, CLOAK...
AND DOPPY'S RAZOR-WEBBING ALSO KEEPS OUT THE--
--RIFF RAFF?
GRR
NOTHING LIKE A CAPTIVE AUDIENCE TO SHARE THE FUN, SHRIEK!
...AND ROILING RAGE!
MORE MONSTERS?
EVERYBODY WHO'S ANYBODY IS ANGRY THESE DAYS, "HEROES"--!
POW
ERRK
BUT WE'VE GOT THE NUMBERS...
AND OUR VERY OWN CUTTING-EDGE STYLE!
FSSS
RWR
FSSS
NO PLACE TO HIDE IN THIS BLOOD BATH--
--AND THE SITUATION'S GETTING...

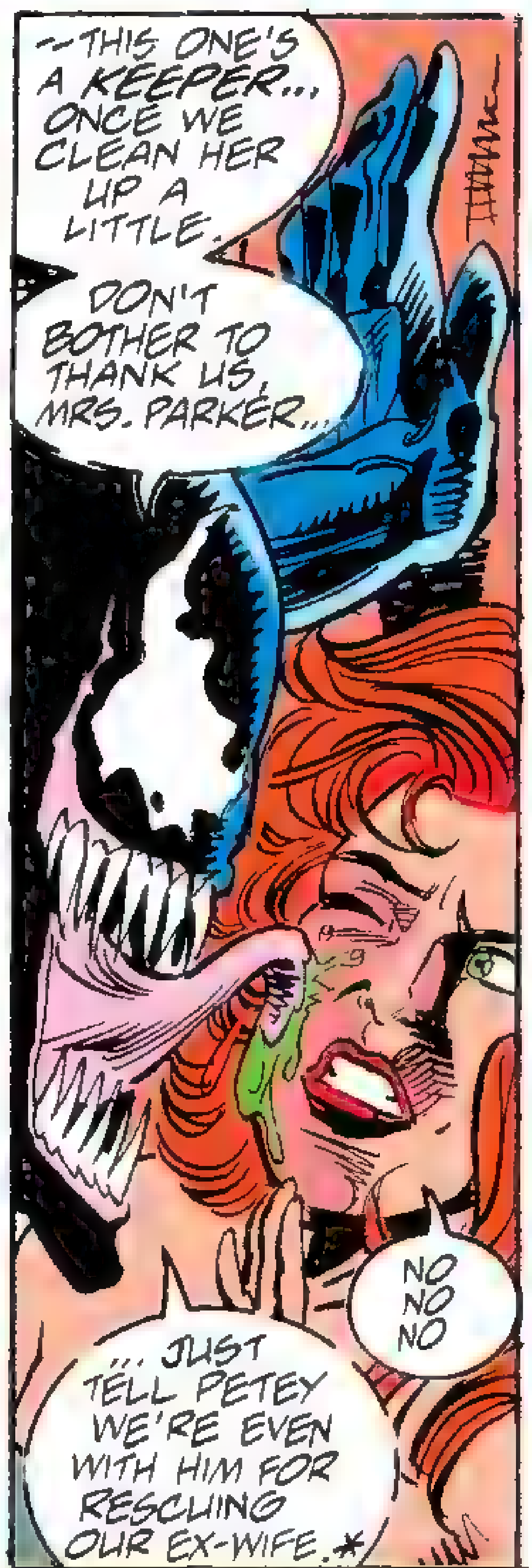

KNOCK, KNOCK!
KROOM
--WORSE BY THE SECOND.
BUT MAYBE THEY'LL ALL KILL EACH OTHER BEFORE--
WHUK
COME TO PAPA, CARNAGE...
VENOM?!
FSSSH
FSSSH
FSSSH
...WE HAVE SOME SERIOUS CATCHING UP TO DO!
THOOM
GRRK


JUST GOT THE SIGNAL FROM THE MOBILE NEWS VAN, ED...
...SATELLITE RELAY'S BROADCASTING TO HALF THE STATIONS IN THE COUNTRY!
GANG'S ALL **HERE**, CARNY... EXCEPT FOR THEIR SPIDER-PET!
BUT THEY BROUGHT **FRESH MEAT** FOR THE STEW!
UHHH...
MORBIUS IS READY, WILLING, AND **MORE** THAN ABLE TO FILL THE COWARDLY SPIDER-MAN'S BOOTS, SPAWN O'MINE!
UNLESS THE BIG, BAD BULLIES ARE **AFRAID** OF A FAIR FIGHT!

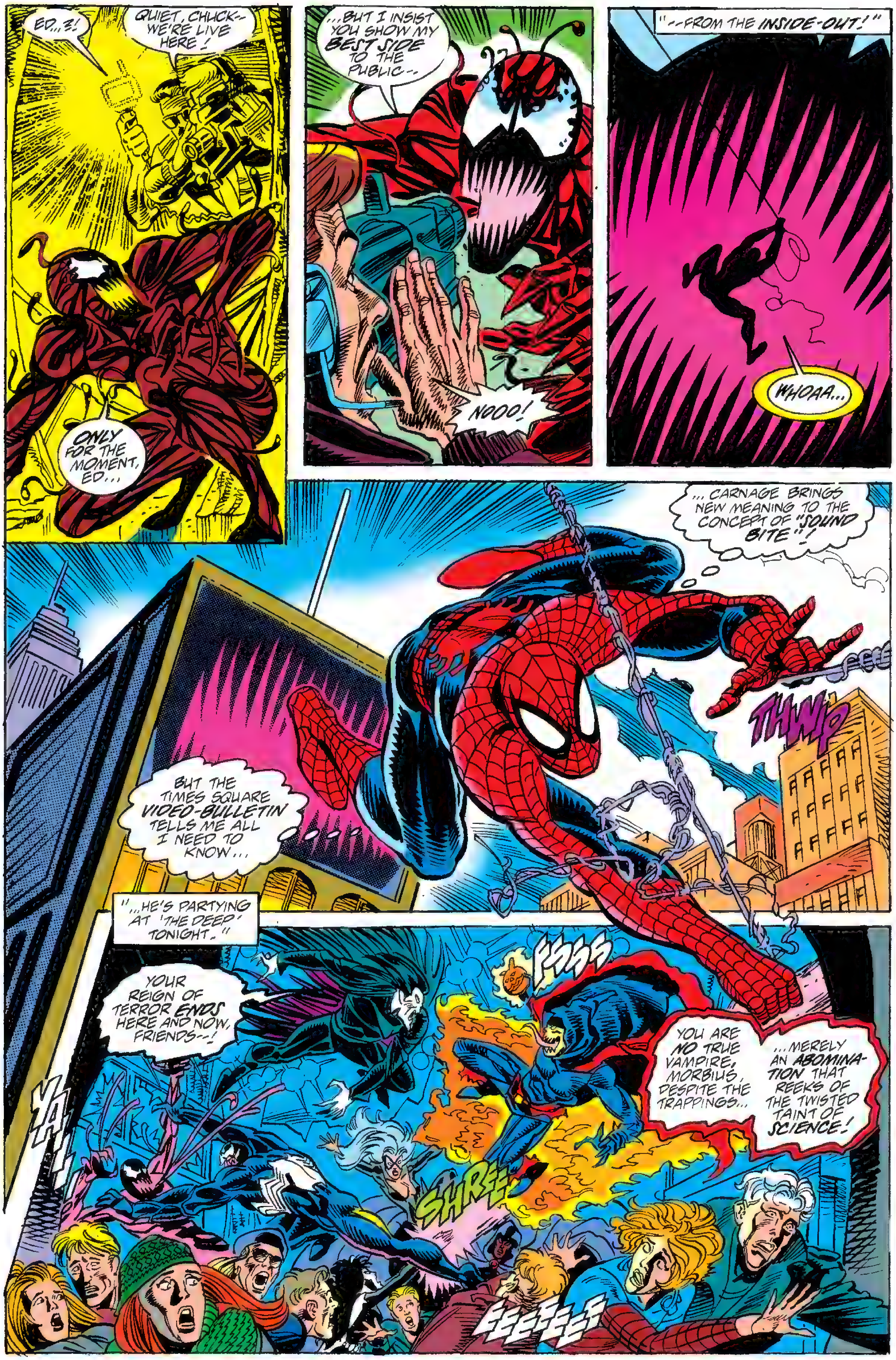

"**FAIR**"? I FEAR YOU MISUNDERSTAND THE WHOLE PHILOSOPHY OF **RANDOM LUNACY**, CAT--

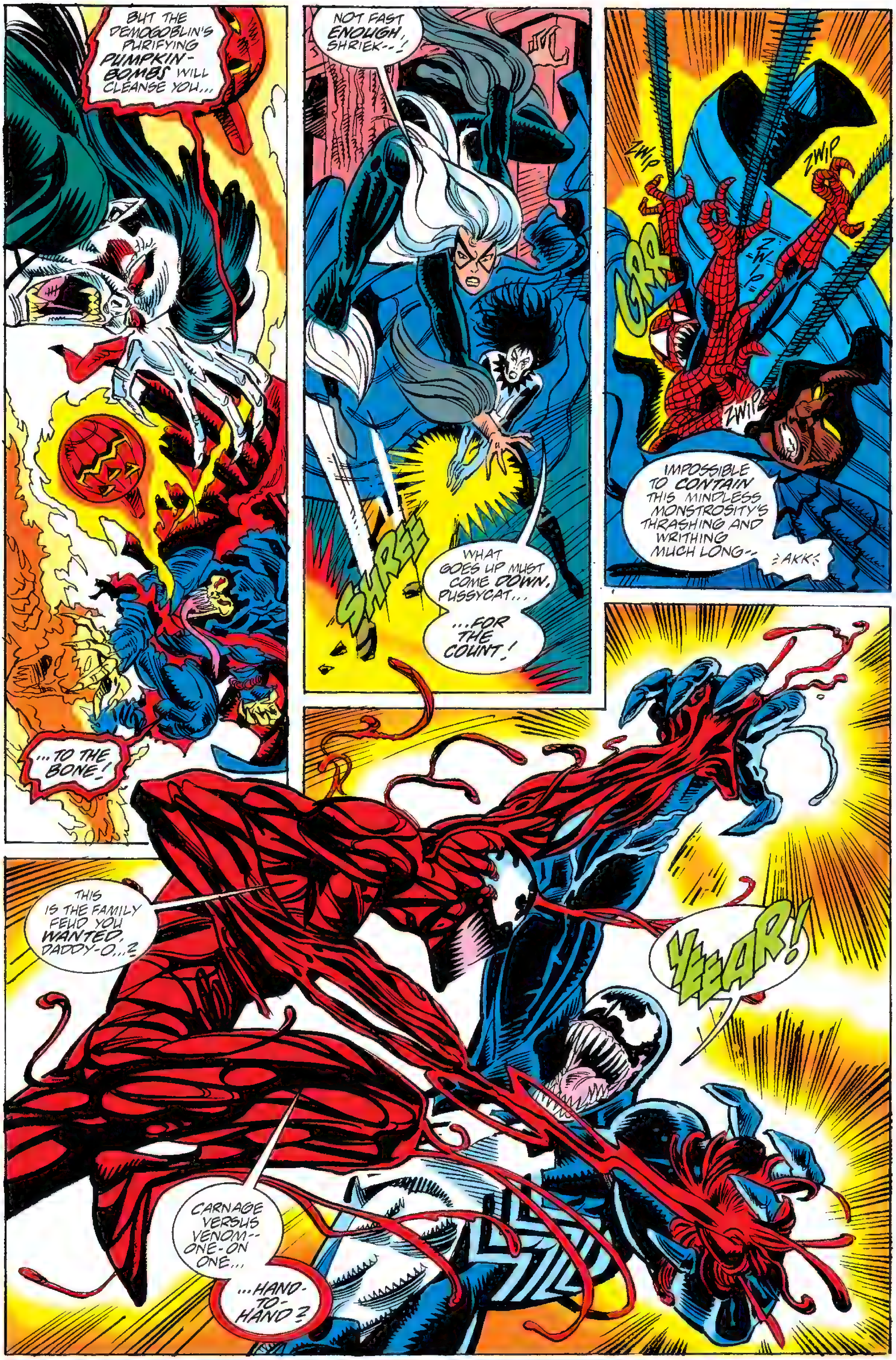

--IS IT FAIR TO... MAKE MY POINT BY **BUTCHERING** THE NEAREST HELPLESS HOSTAGE JUST BECAUSE SHE'S THERE?!
OH MY G--

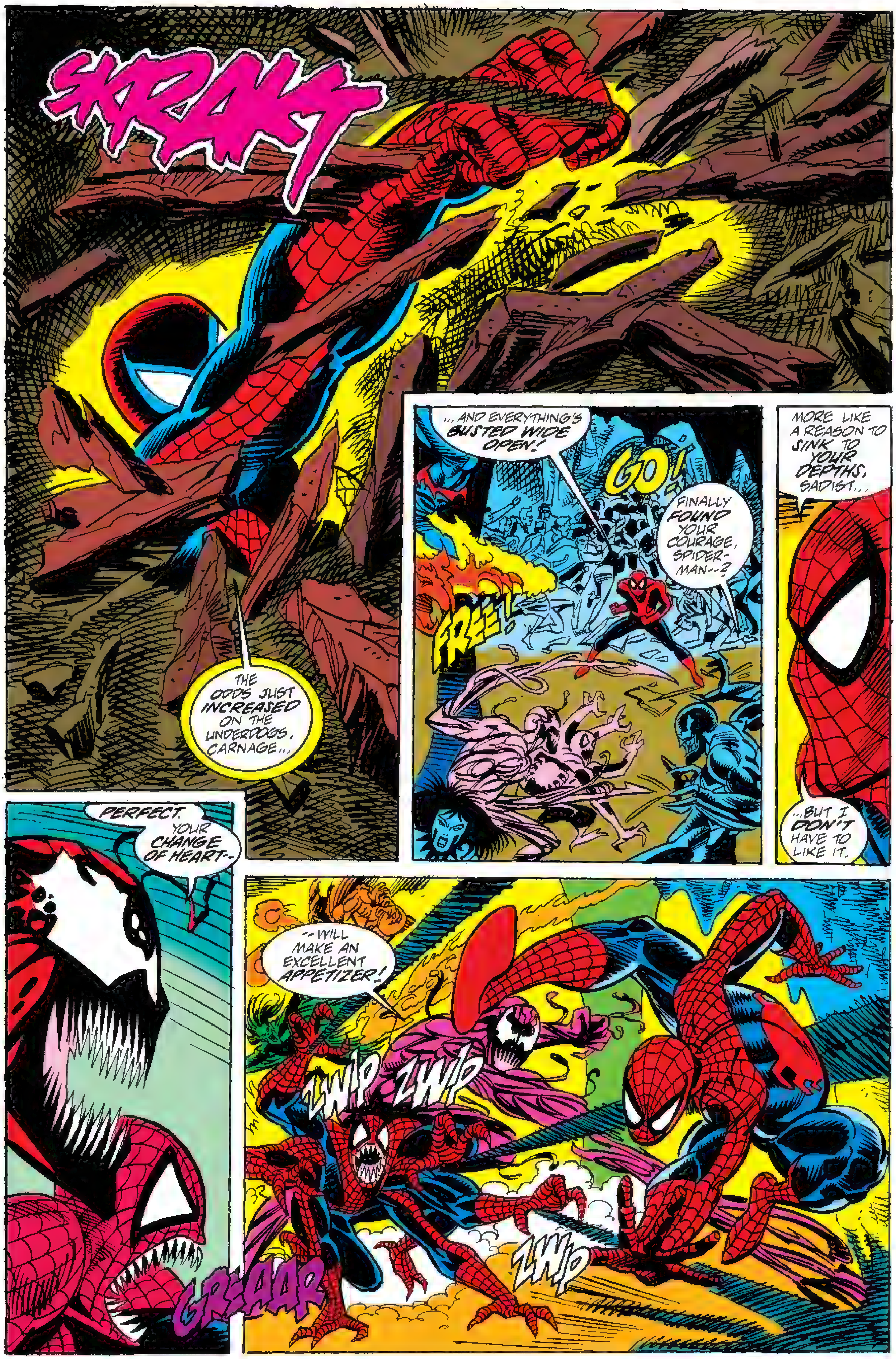

WRONG CHOICE OF POTENTIAL VICTIMS, CARNAGE--
THWOK
WHF
HOLY...!

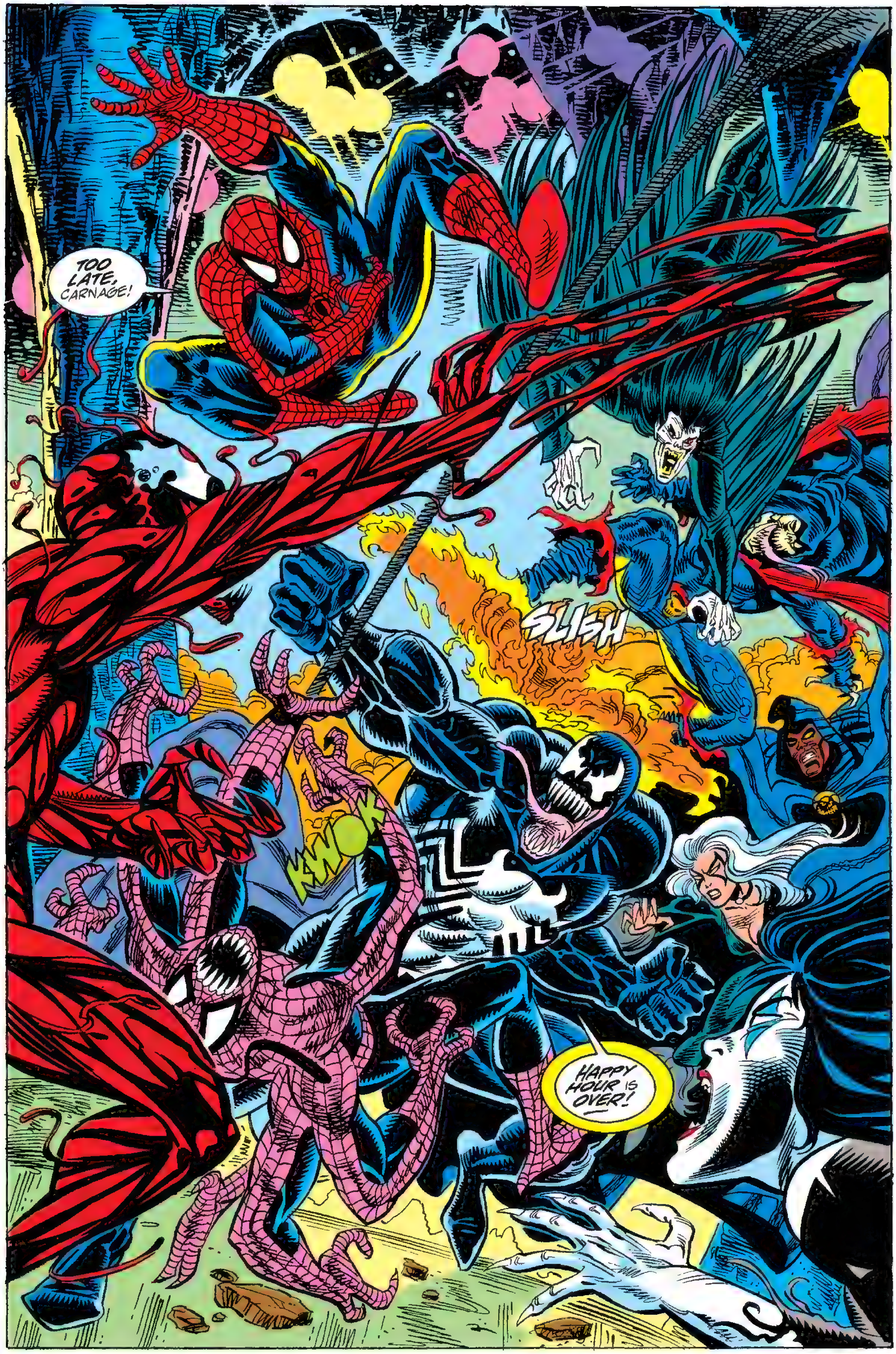

--THIS ONE'S A **KEEPER**... ONCE WE CLEAN HER UP A LITTLE.
DON'T BOTHER TO THANK US, MRS. PARKER...
NO NO NO
...JUST TELL PETEY WE'RE EVEN WITH HIM FOR RESCUING OUR EX-WIFE.*

*AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #375. --ROB

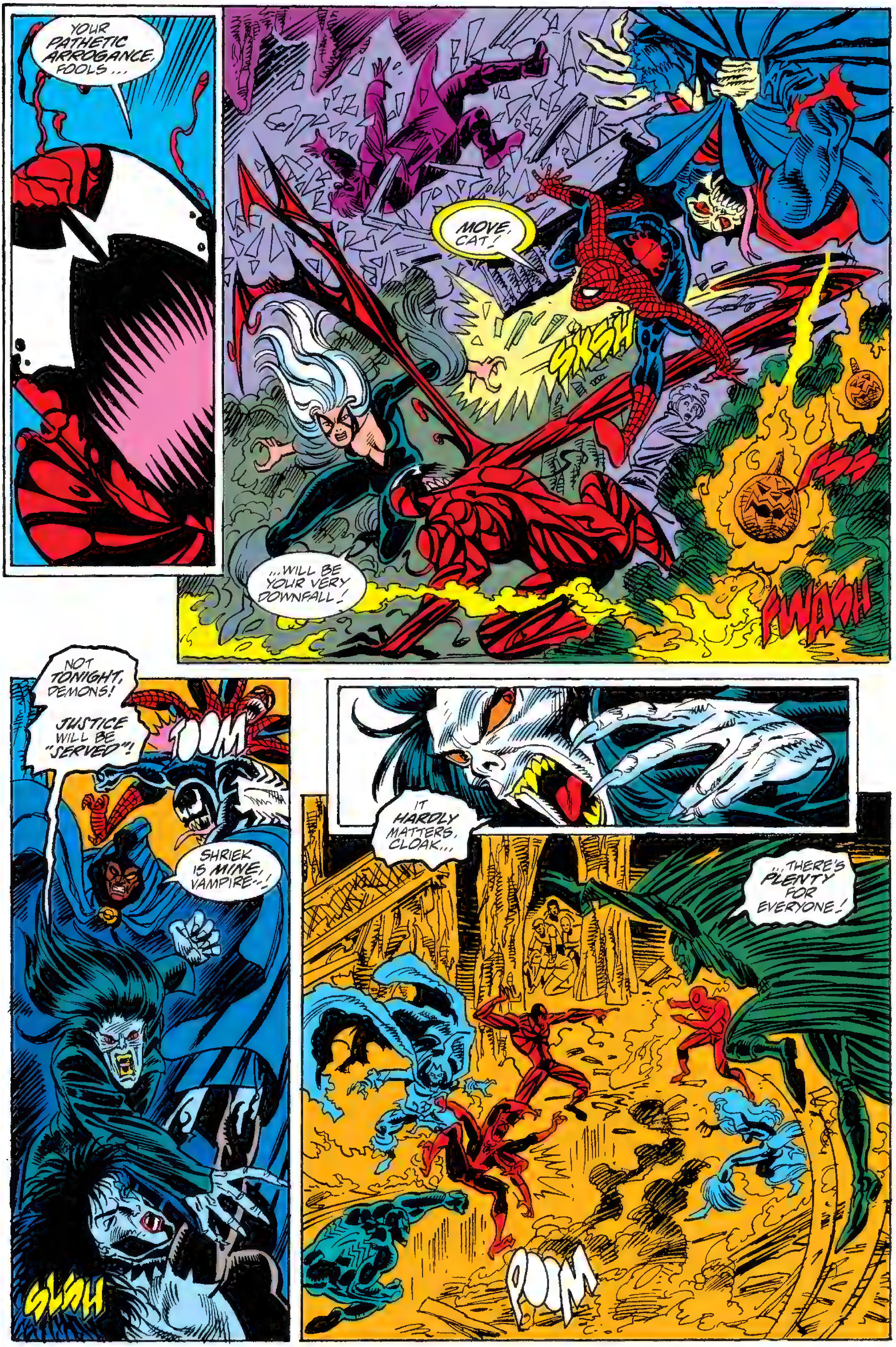

ED...?!
QUIET, CHUCK-- WE'RE LIVE HERE!
ONLY FOR THE MOMENT, ED...
...BUT I INSIST YOU SHOW MY BEST SIDE TO THE PUBLIC--.
NOOO!
"--FROM THE INSIDE-OUT!"
WHOAA...
...CARNAGE BRINGS NEW MEANING TO THE CONCEPT OF "SOUND BITE"!
THWIP
BUT THE TIMES SQUARE VIDEO-BULLETIN TELLS ME ALL I NEED TO KNOW...
"...HE'S PARTYING AT 'THE DEEP' TONIGHT."
YOUR REIGN OF TERROR ENDS HERE AND NOW, FRIENDS--!
FSSS
YOU ARE NO TRUE VAMPIRE, MORBIUS, DESPITE THE TRAPPINGS...
...MERELY AN ABOMINATION THAT REEKS OF THE TWISTED TAINT OF SCIENCE!
YAH
SHREE
EEEEEEE

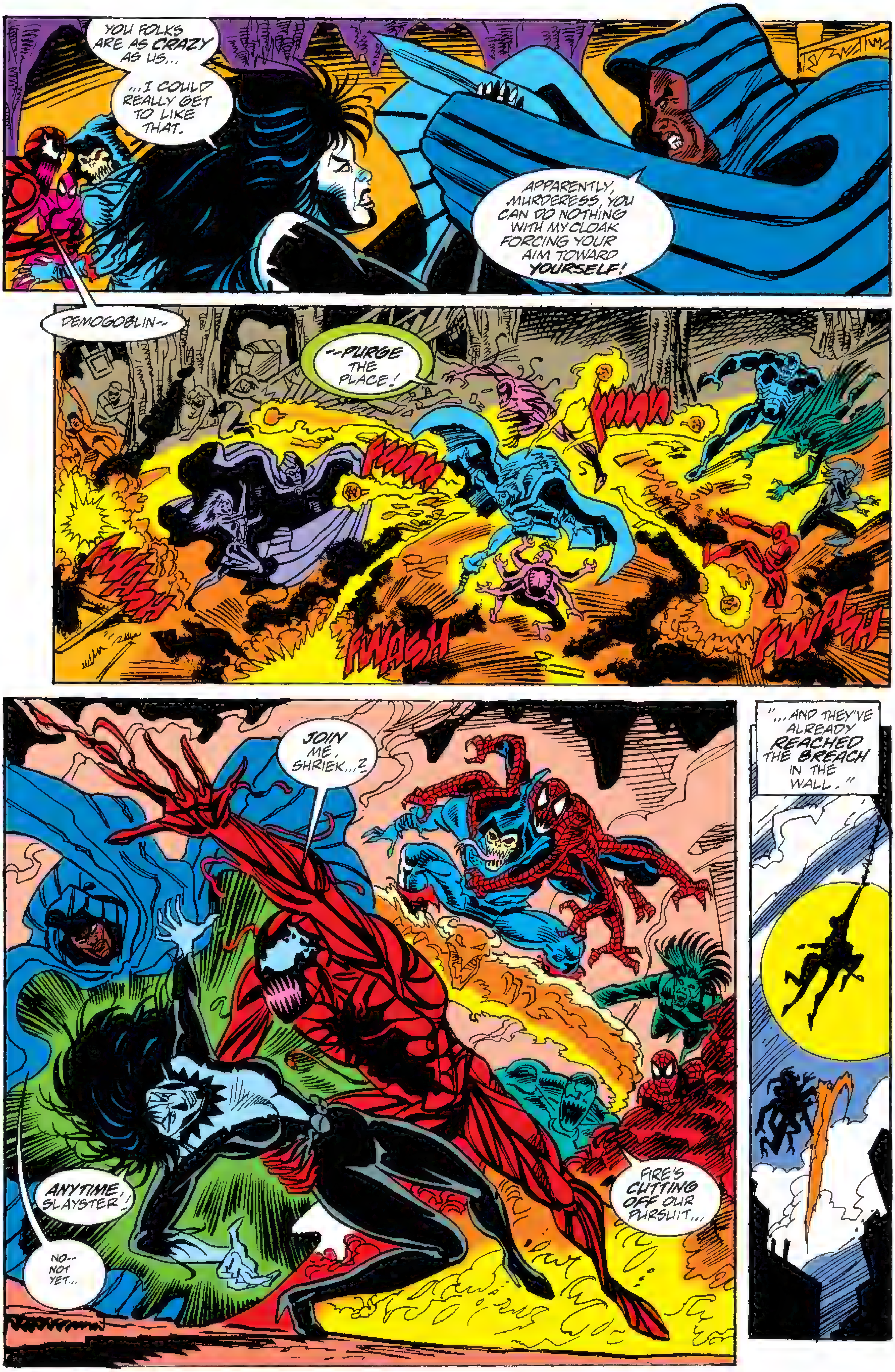

BUT THE DEMOGOBLIN'S PURIFYING PUMPKIN-BOMBS WILL CLEANSE YOU...
...TO THE BONE!
NOT FAST ENOUGH, SHRIEK--!
SHREE
WHAT GOES UP MUST COME DOWN, PUSSYCAT...
...FOR THE COUNT!
ZWIP
ZWIP
GRR
ZWIP
ZWIP
IMPOSSIBLE TO CONTAIN THIS MINDLESS MONSTROSITY'S THRASHING AND WRITHING MUCH LONG--
AKK!
THIS IS THE FAMILY FEUD YOU WANTED, DADDY-O...?
YEEAR!
CARNAGE VERSUS VENOM--ONE-ON ONE...
...HAND-TO-HAND?

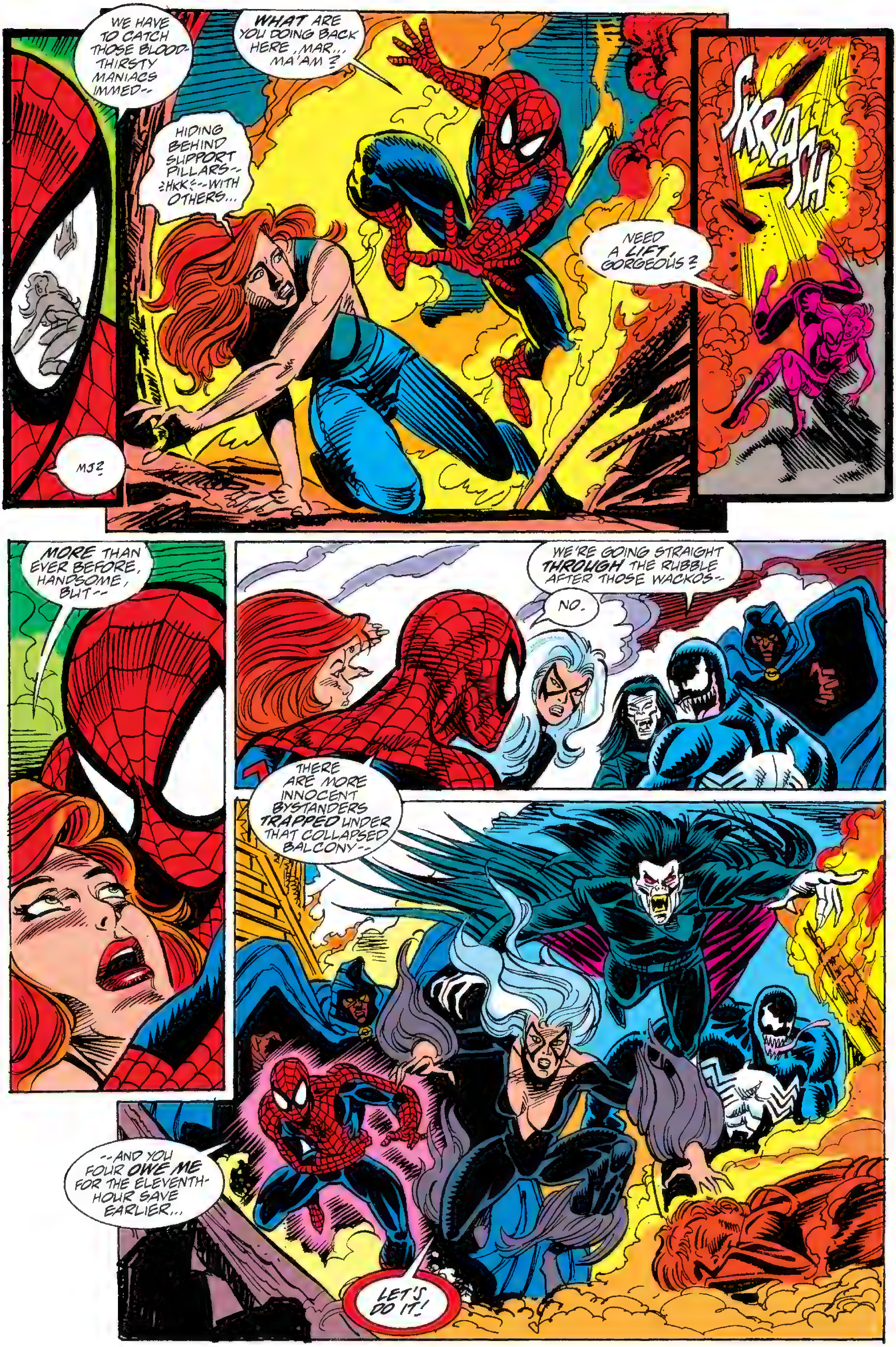

SKRAKT
THE ODDS JUST INCREASED ON THE UNDERDOGS, CARNAGE...
...AND EVERYTHING'S BUSTED WIDE OPEN!
GO!
FINALLY FOUND YOUR COURAGE, SPIDER-MAN--?
FREE!
MORE LIKE A REASON TO SINK TO YOUR DEPTHS, SADIST...
...BUT I DON'T HAVE TO LIKE IT.
PERFECT. YOUR CHANGE OF HEART--
GRAAAR
--WILL MAKE AN EXCELLENT APPETIZER!
ZWIP
ZWIP
ZWIP

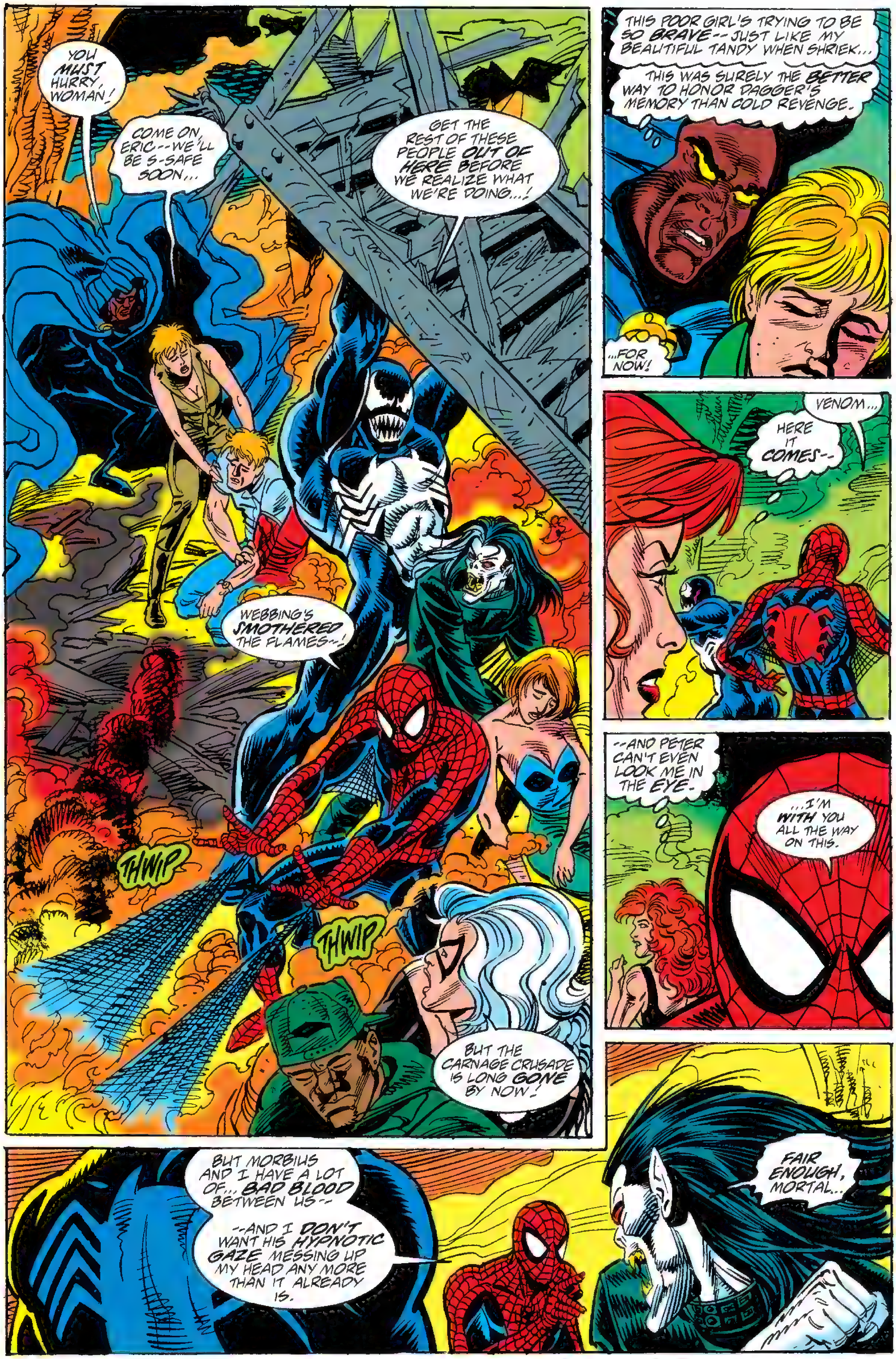

TOO LATE, CARNAGE!
SLISH
KNOK
HAPPY HOUR IS OVER!

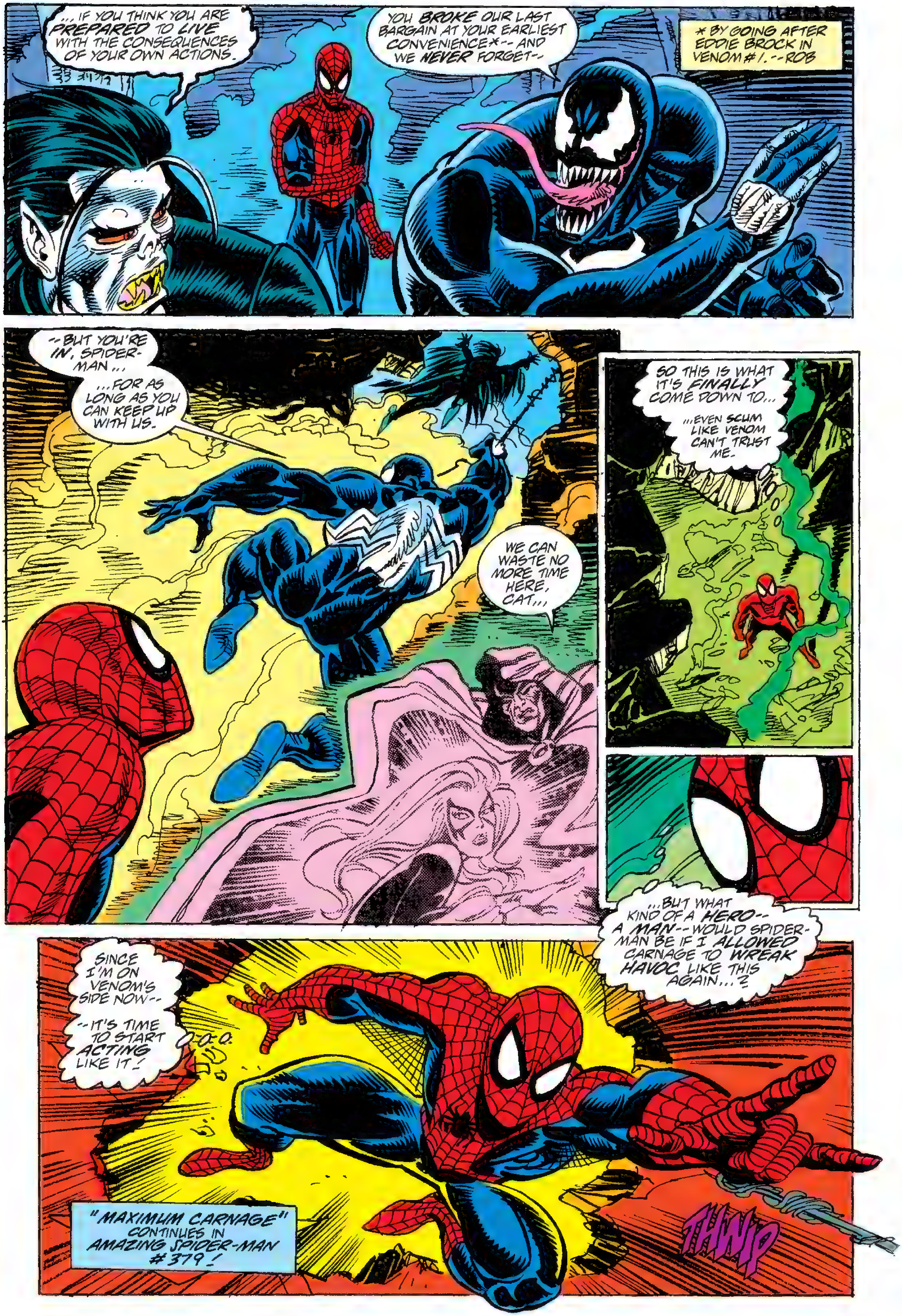
JOIN ME, CAT?
ANYTIME, SPIDER-STUD!
SLSH
POOM
WHERE...?
YOU SHALL THREATEN **NO ONE** AGAIN, DEMO-GOBLIN--!
UMPH!
FORGET ABOUT MORBIUS, ARACHNOID...
...WE'RE NOT AFRAID TO GET A LITTLE **BLOOD** ON OUR HAN--
AND I WILL RELISH GETTING UNDER **YOURS**, WITCH...!
AAAAR!
SHREE
SHREE
ZWIP
BUT MY **SONIC BLASTS** CAN STILL GET UNDER YOUR SKIN, VENOM--!


YOUR PATHETIC ARROGANCE, FOOLS...
MOVE, CAT!
SKSH
...WILL BE YOUR VERY DOWNFALL!
FWASH
NOT TONIGHT, DEMONS!
JUSTICE WILL BE "SERVED"!
TOOM
SHRIEK IS MINE, VAMPIRE--!
SLSH
IT HARDLY MATTERS, CLOAK...
...THERE'S PLENTY FOR EVERYONE!
POOM


YOU FOLKS ARE AS CRAZY AS US...
...I COULD REALLY GET TO LIKE THAT.
APPARENTLY, MURDERESS, YOU CAN DO NOTHING WITH MY CLOAK FORCING YOUR AIM TOWARD YOURSELF!
DEMOGOBLIN--
--PURGE THE PLACE!
FWASH
FWASH
FWASH
JOIN ME, SHRIEK...?
ANYTIME, SLAYSTER!
NO-- NOT YET...
FIRE'S CUTTING OFF OUR PURSUIT...
"...AND THEY'VE ALREADY REACHED THE BREACH IN THE WALL."


WE HAVE TO CATCH THOSE BLOOD-THIRSTY MANIACS IMMED--
WHAT ARE YOU DOING BACK HERE, MAR... MA'AM?
HIDING BEHIND SUPPORT PILLARS-- HKK--WITH OTHERS...
MJ?
SKRASH
NEED A LIFT, GORGEOUS?
MORE THAN EVER BEFORE, HANDSOME, BUT--
WE'RE GOING STRAIGHT THROUGH THE RUBBLE AFTER THOSE WACKOS--
NO.
THERE ARE MORE INNOCENT BYSTANDERS TRAPPED UNDER THAT COLLAPSED BALCONY--
--AND YOU FOUR OWE ME FOR THE ELEVENTH-HOUR SAVE EARLIER...
LET'S DO IT!


YOU MUST HURRY, WOMAN!
COME ON, ERIC--WE'LL BE S-SAFE SOON...
GET THE REST OF THESE PEOPLE OUT OF HERE BEFORE WE REALIZE WHAT WE'RE DOING...!
WEBBING'S SMOTHERED THE FLAMES--!
THWIP
THWIP
BUT THE CARNAGE CRUSADE IS LONG GONE BY NOW!
THIS POOR GIRL'S TRYING TO BE SO BRAVE--JUST LIKE MY BEAUTIFUL TANDY WHEN SHRIEK...
THIS WAS SURELY THE BETTER WAY TO HONOR DAGGER'S MEMORY THAN COLD REVENGE.
...FOR NOW!
VENOM...
HERE IT COMES--
--AND PETER CAN'T EVEN LOOK ME IN THE EYE.
...I'M WITH YOU ALL THE WAY ON THIS.
BUT MORBIUS AND I HAVE A LOT OF... BAD BLOOD BETWEEN US--
--AND I DON'T WANT HIS HYPNOTIC GAZE MESSING UP MY HEAD ANY MORE THAN IT ALREADY IS.
FAIR ENOUGH, MORTAL...


...IF YOU THINK YOU ARE PREPARED TO LIVE WITH THE CONSEQUENCES OF YOUR OWN ACTIONS.
YOU BROKE OUR LAST BARGAIN AT YOUR EARLIEST CONVENIENCE*-- AND WE NEVER FORGET--
*BY GOING AFTER EDDIE BROCK IN VENOM #1.--ROB
--BUT YOU'RE IN, SPIDER-MAN...
...FOR AS LONG AS YOU CAN KEEP UP WITH US.
WE CAN WASTE NO MORE TIME HERE, CAT...
SO THIS IS WHAT IT'S FINALLY COME DOWN TO...
...EVEN SCUM LIKE VENOM CAN'T TRUST ME.
...BUT WHAT KIND OF A HERO-- A MAN--WOULD SPIDER-MAN BE IF I ALLOWED CARNAGE TO WREAK HAVOC LIKE THIS AGAIN...?
SINCE I'M ON VENOM'S SIDE NOW--
--IT'S TIME TO START ACTING LIKE IT!
THWIP
"MAXIMUM CARNAGE" CONTINUES IN AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #379!

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379
JUL
UK 95p
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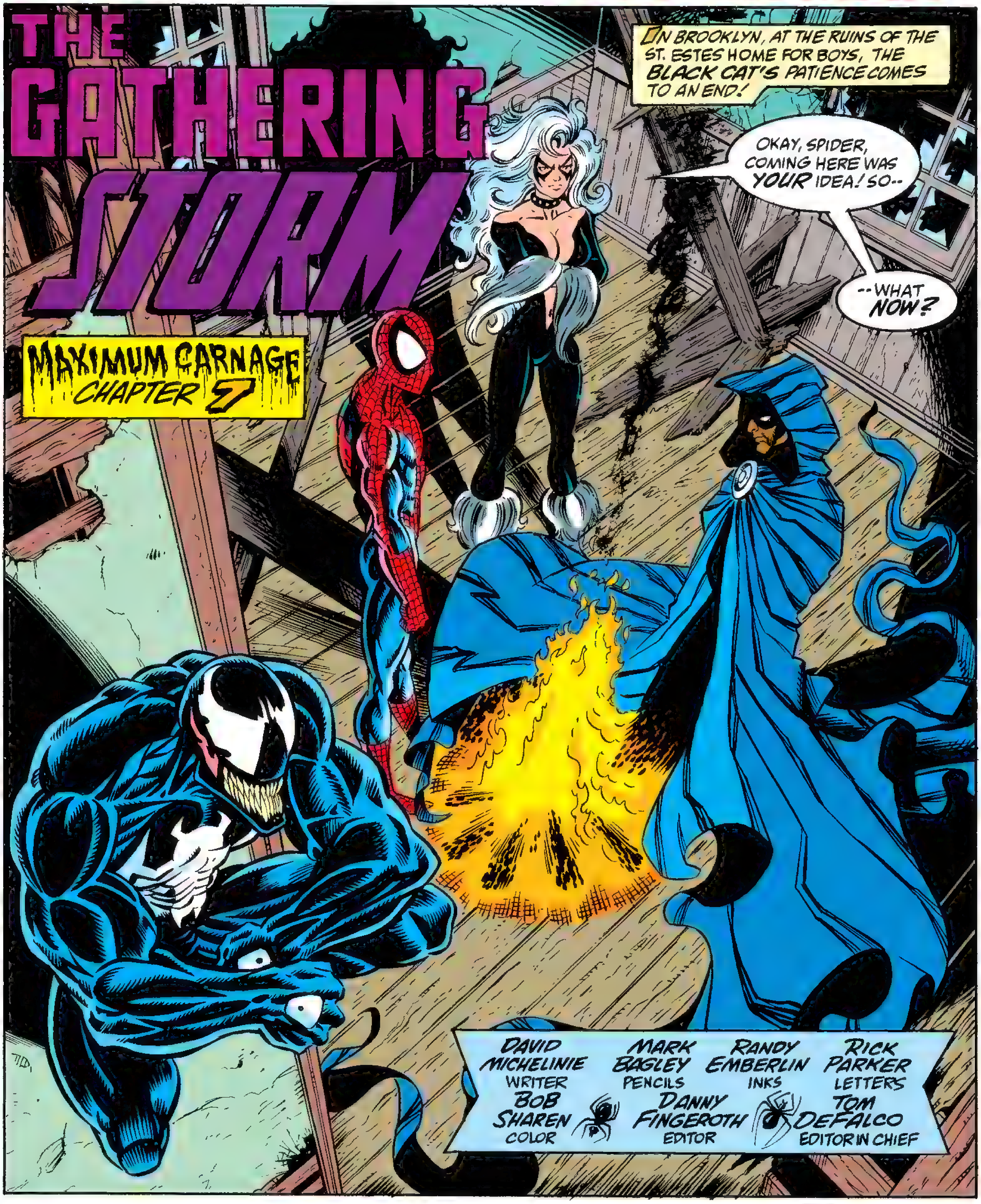
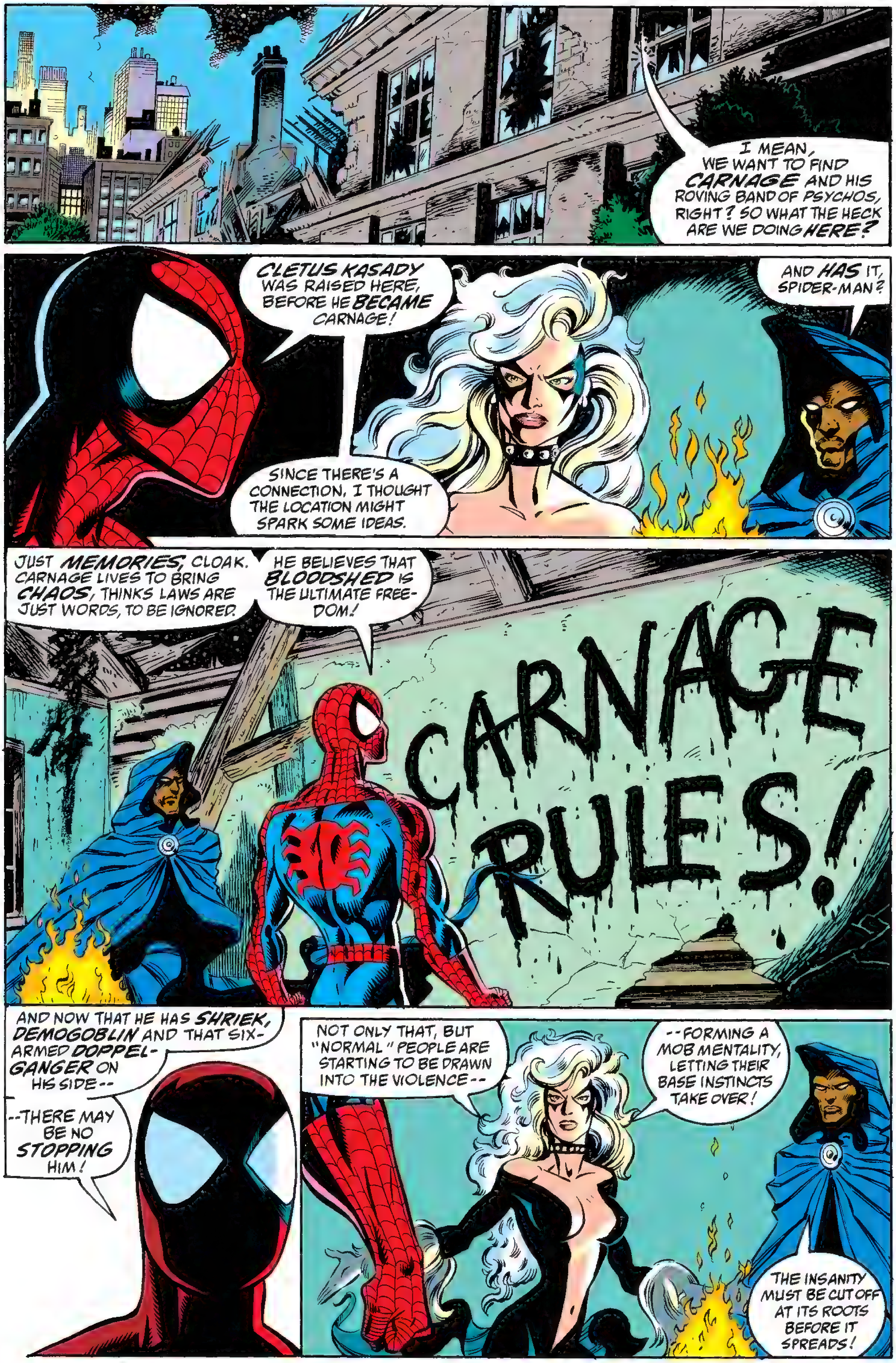
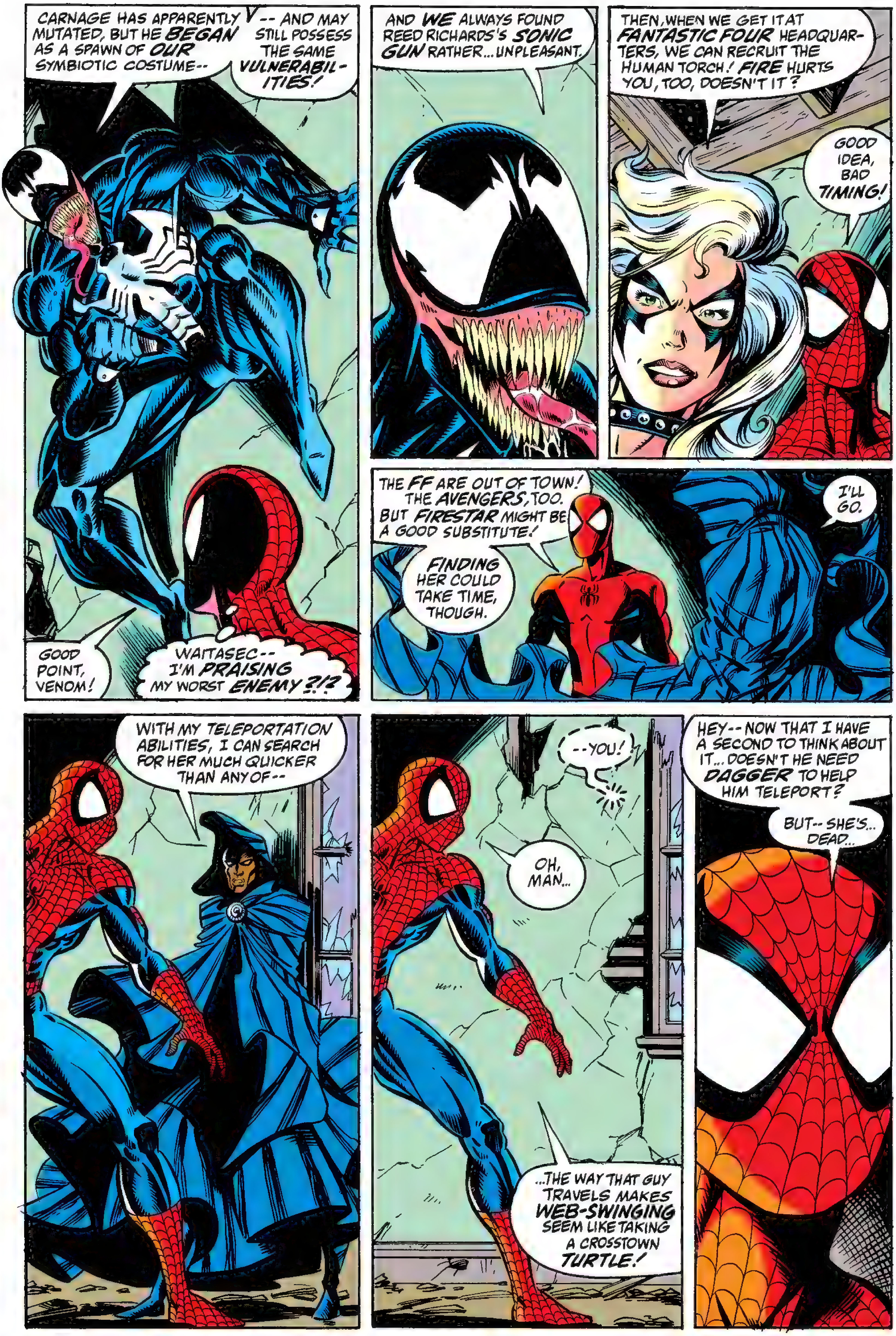
MAXIMUM CARNAGE TM
PART 7 OF 14
the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN ®
VENOM! CARNAGE! DOPPLEGANGER! DEMOGOBLIN! DEATHLOK!
THINGS GET EVEN WILDER!
BAGS '93 + RE.

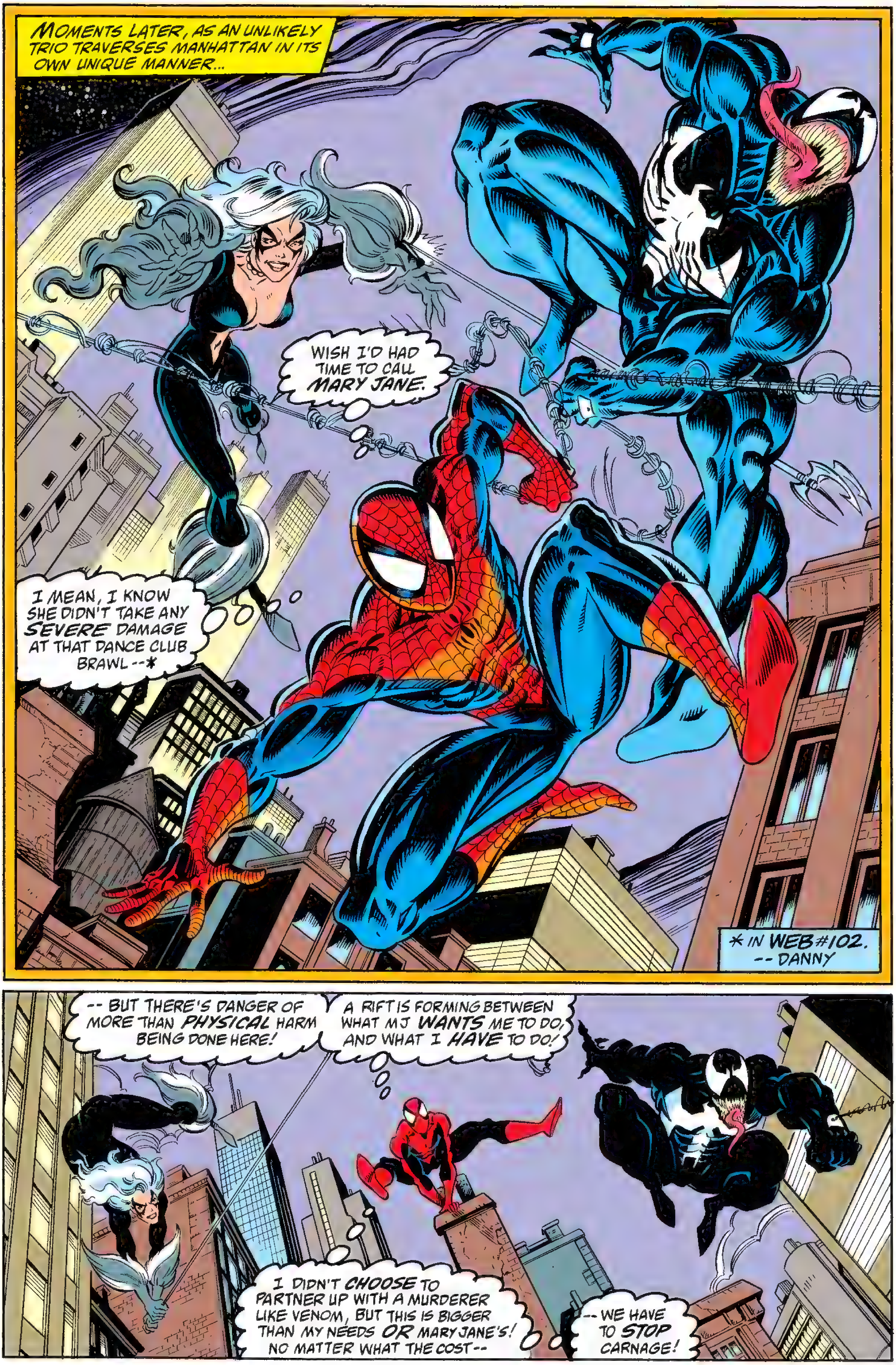
BITTEN BY A RADIOACTIVE SPIDER, STUDENT **PETER PARKER** GAINED THE PROPORTIONATE STRENGTH AND AGILITY OF AN ARACHNID! ARMED WITH HIS WONDROUS WEB-SHOOTERS, THE RELUCTANT SUPER HERO STRUGGLES WITH SINISTER SUPER-VILLAINS, MAKING ENDS MEET, AND MAINTAINING SOME SEMBLANCE OF A NORMAL LIFE!

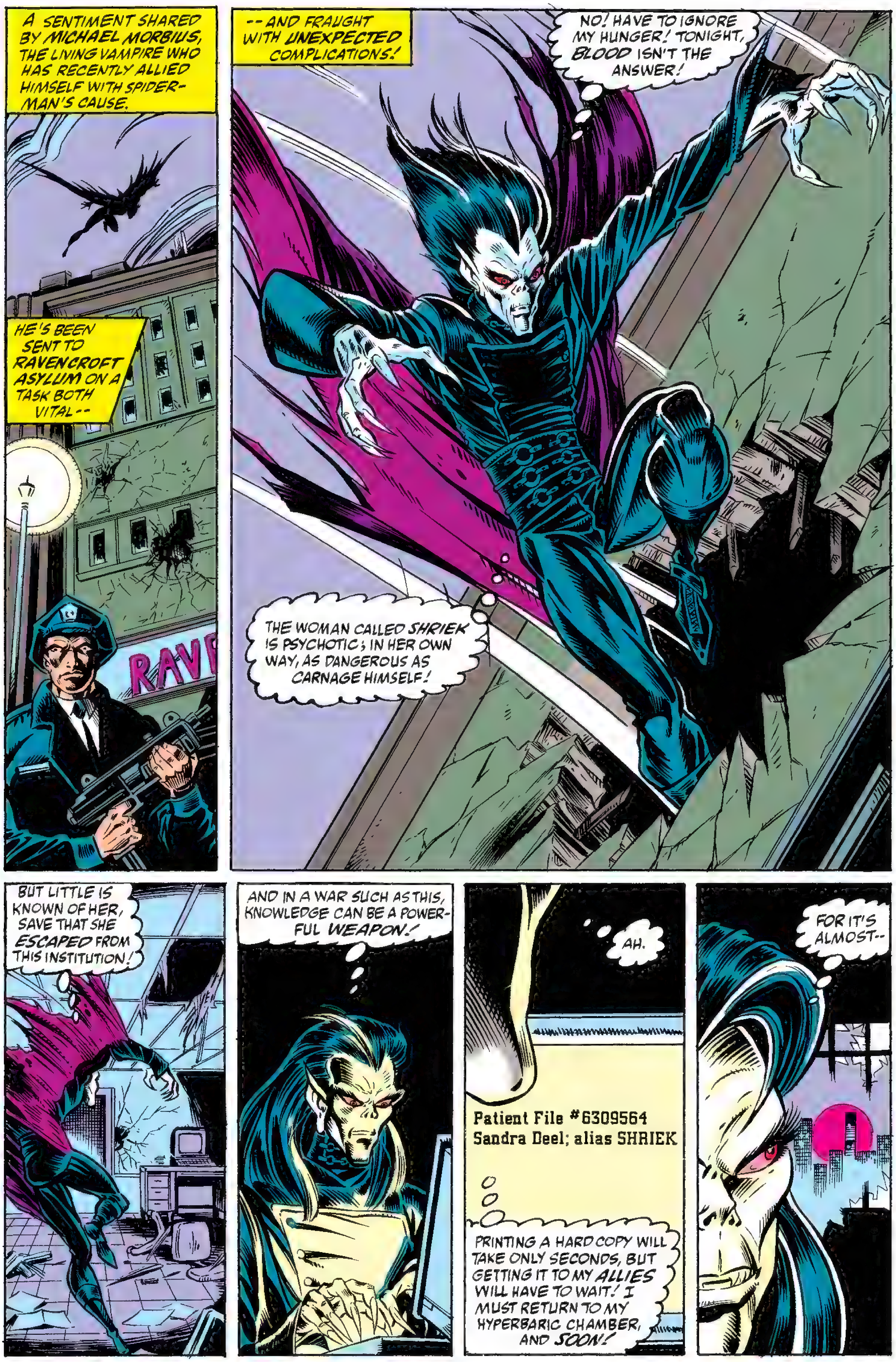
Stan Lee PRESENTS: THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN®

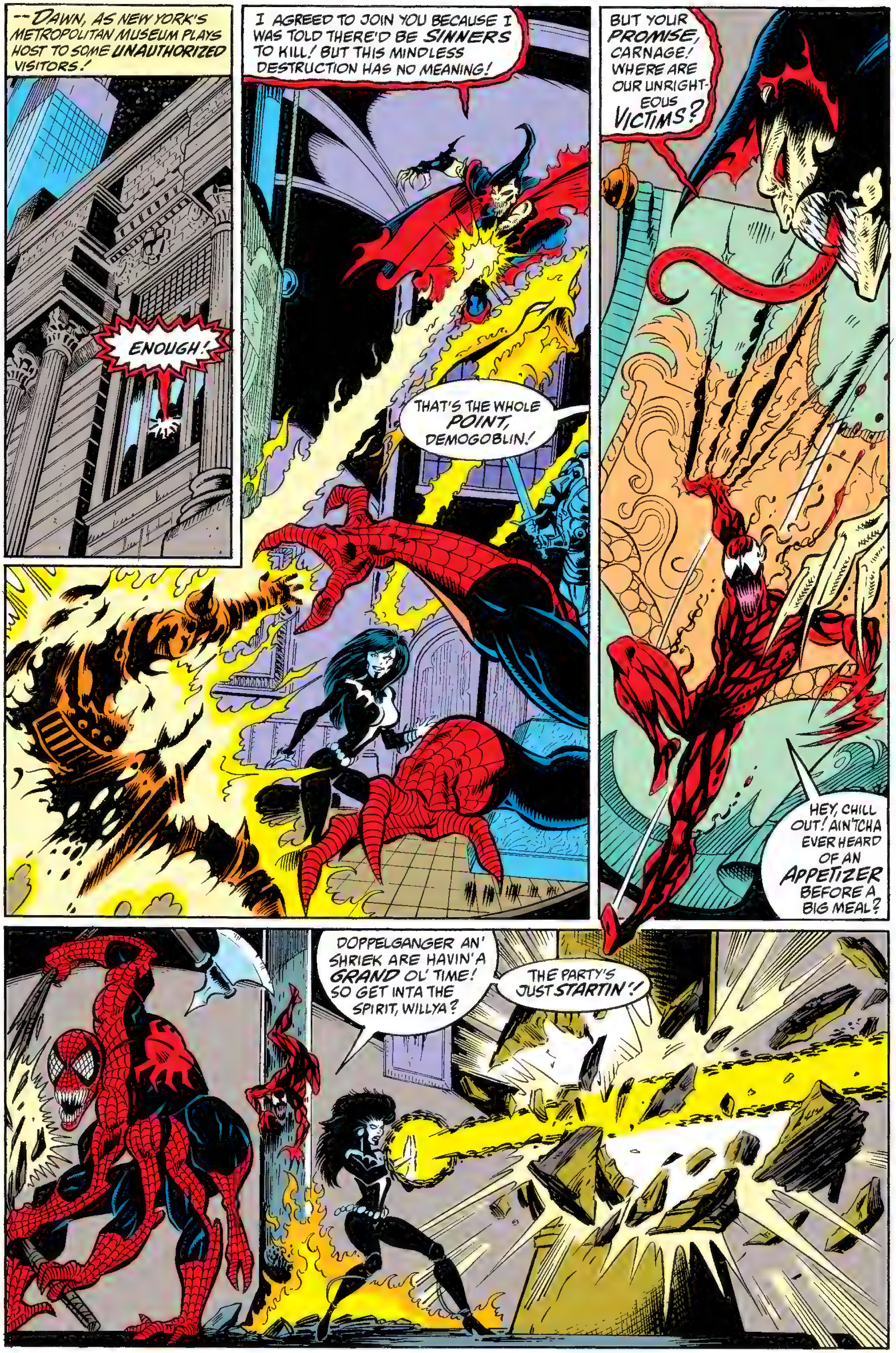

THE GATHERING STORM
MAXIMUM CARNAGE CHAPTER 7
IN BROOKLYN, AT THE RUINS OF THE ST. ESTES HOME FOR BOYS, THE BLACK CAT'S PATIENCE COMES TO AN END!
OKAY, SPIDER, COMING HERE WAS YOUR IDEA! SO--
--WHAT NOW?
DAVID MICHELINIE WRITER
MARK BAGLEY PENCILS
RANDY EMBERLIN INKS
RICK PARKER LETTERS
BOB SHAREN COLOR
DANNY FINGEROTH EDITOR
TOM DEFALCO EDITOR IN CHIEF

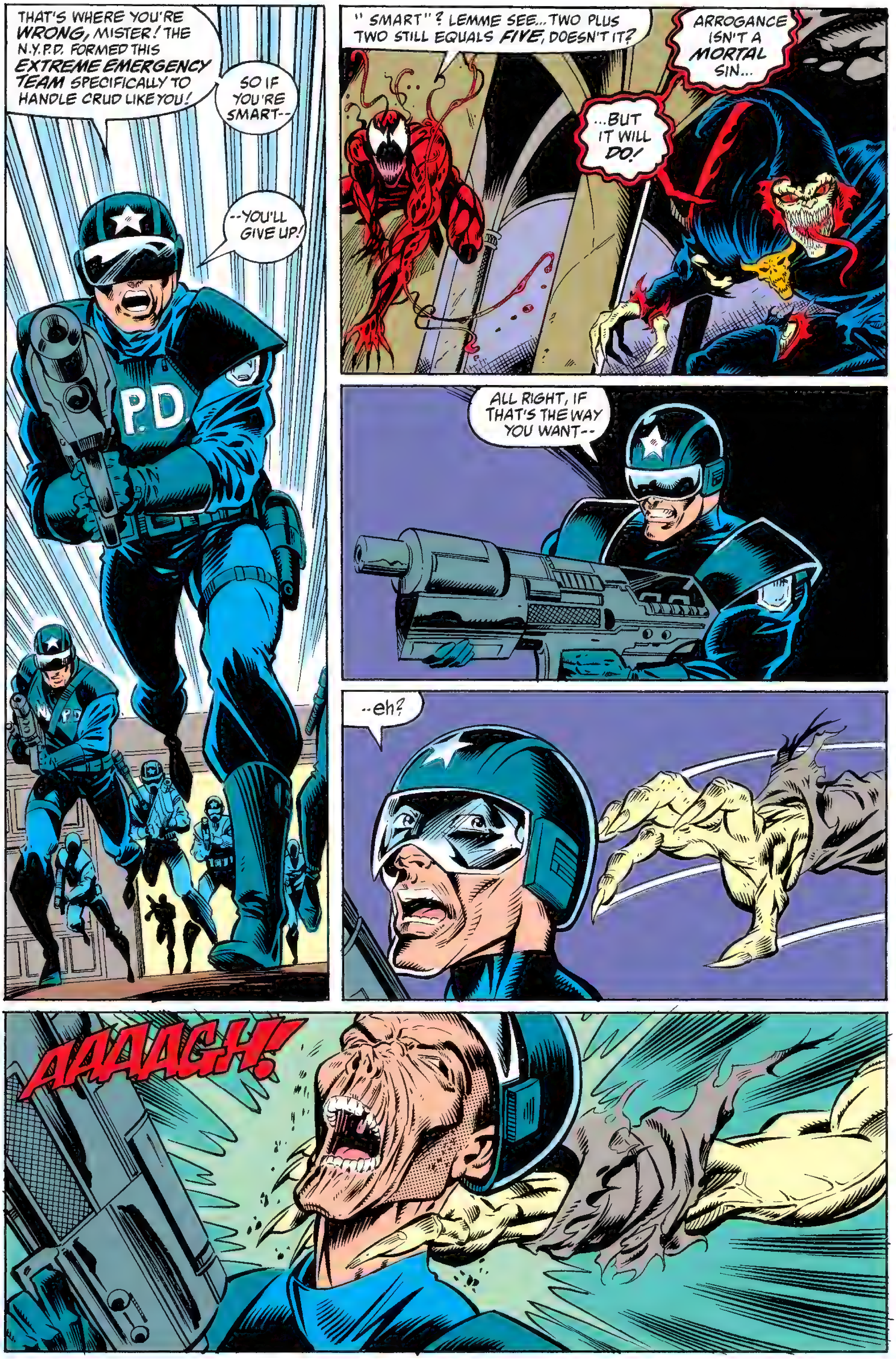

I MEAN, WE WANT TO FIND **CARNAGE** AND HIS ROVING BAND OF PSYCHOS, RIGHT? SO WHAT THE HECK ARE WE DOING **HERE?**
CLETUS KASADY WAS RAISED HERE, BEFORE HE **BECAME** CARNAGE!
SINCE THERE'S A CONNECTION, I THOUGHT THE LOCATION MIGHT SPARK SOME IDEAS.
AND **HAS** IT, SPIDER-MAN?
JUST **MEMORIES,** CLOAK. CARNAGE LIVES TO BRING **CHAOS,** THINKS LAWS ARE JUST WORDS, TO BE IGNORED.
HE BELIEVES THAT **BLOODSHED** IS THE ULTIMATE FREEDOM!
CARNAGE RULES!
AND NOW THAT HE HAS **SHRIEK, DEMOGOBLIN** AND THAT SIX-ARMED **DOPPELGANGER** ON HIS SIDE--
--THERE MAY BE NO **STOPPING** HIM!
NOT ONLY THAT, BUT "NORMAL" PEOPLE ARE STARTING TO BE DRAWN INTO THE VIOLENCE--
--FORMING A MOB MENTALITY, LETTING THEIR BASE INSTINCTS TAKE OVER!
THE INSANITY MUST BE CUT OFF AT ITS ROOTS BEFORE IT SPREADS!

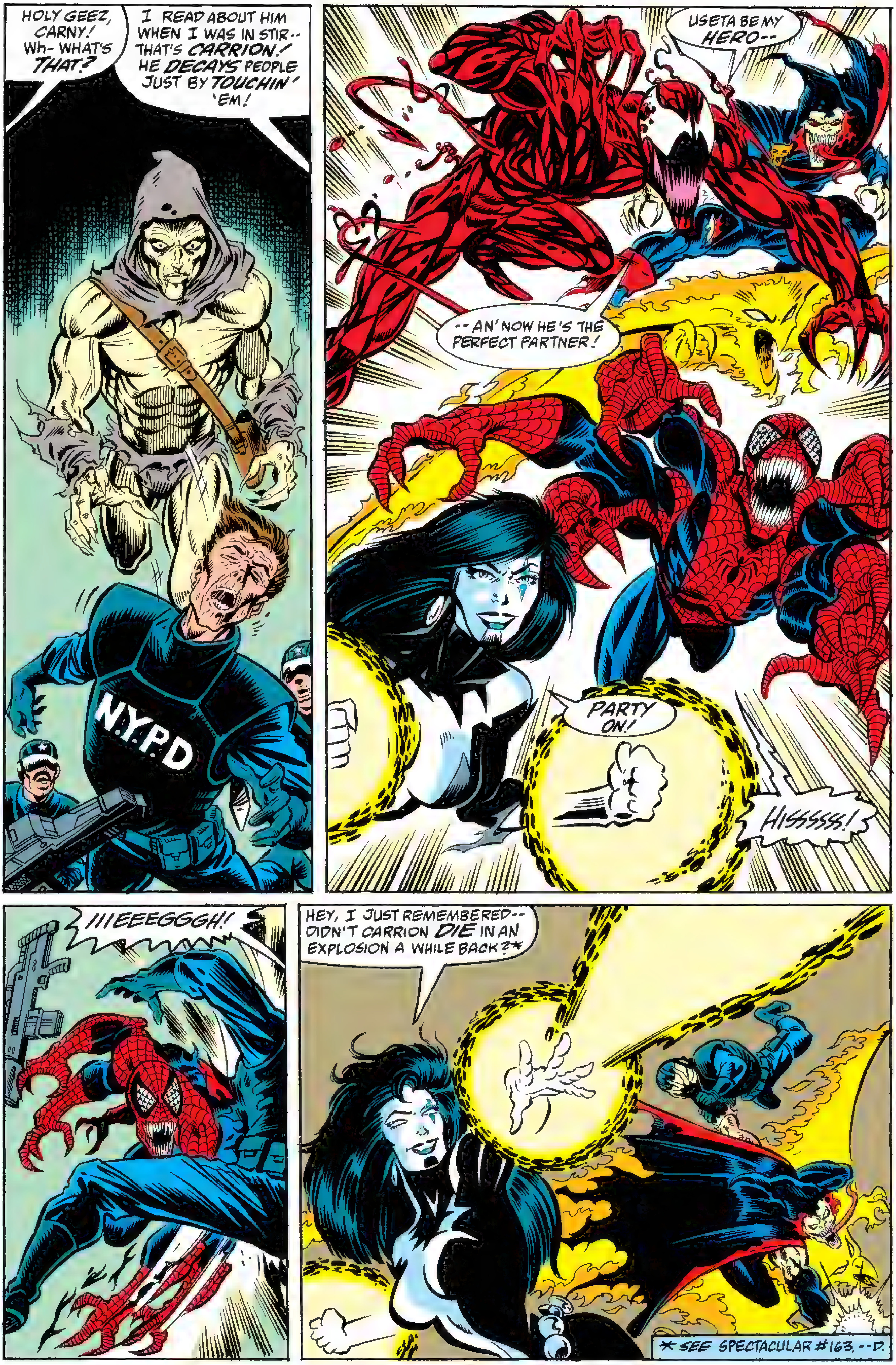

CARNAGE HAS APPARENTLY MUTATED, BUT HE *BEGAN* AS A SPAWN OF *OUR* SYMBIOTIC COSTUME--
-- AND MAY STILL POSSESS THE SAME *VULNERABILITIES!*
GOOD POINT, VENOM!
WAITASEC-- I'M *PRAISING* MY WORST *ENEMY?!?*
AND *WE* ALWAYS FOUND REED RICHARDS'S *SONIC GUN* RATHER... UNPLEASANT.
THEN, WHEN WE GET IT AT *FANTASTIC FOUR* HEADQUARTERS, WE CAN RECRUIT THE HUMAN TORCH! *FIRE* HURTS YOU, TOO, DOESN'T IT?
GOOD IDEA, BAD *TIMING!*
THE *FF* ARE OUT OF TOWN! THE *AVENGERS*, TOO. BUT *FIRESTAR* MIGHT BE A GOOD SUBSTITUTE!
FINDING HER COULD TAKE TIME, THOUGH.
I'LL GO.
WITH MY TELEPORTATION ABILITIES, I CAN SEARCH FOR HER MUCH QUICKER THAN ANY OF--
--YOU!
OH, MAN...
...THE WAY THAT GUY TRAVELS MAKES *WEB-SWINGING* SEEM LIKE TAKING A CROSSTOWN *TURTLE!*
HEY-- NOW THAT I HAVE A SECOND TO THINK ABOUT IT... DOESN'T HE NEED *DAGGER* TO HELP HIM TELEPORT?
BUT-- SHE'S... DEAD...

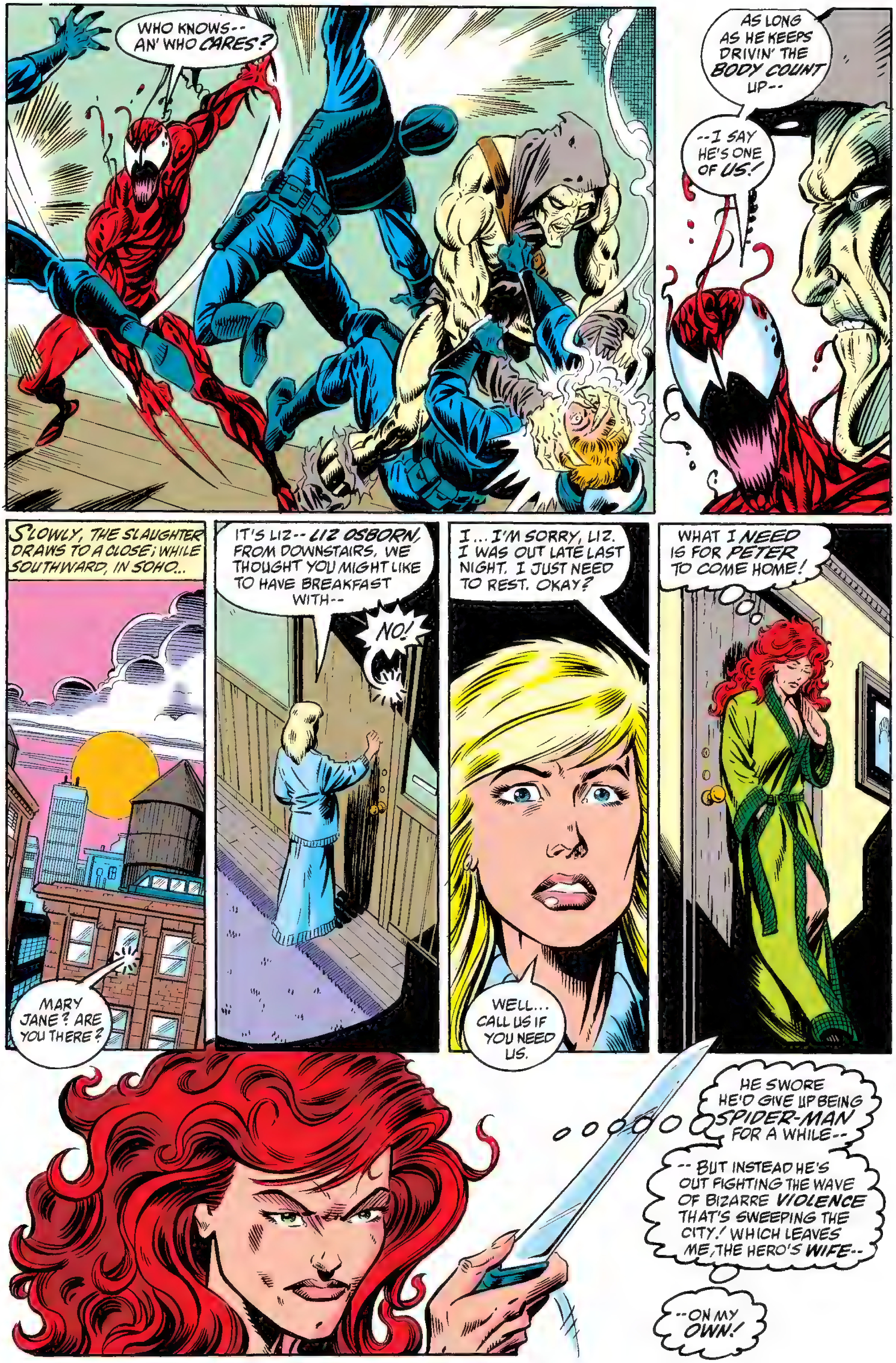

MOMENTS LATER, AS AN UNLIKELY TRIO TRAVERSES MANHATTAN IN ITS OWN UNIQUE MANNER...
WISH I'D HAD TIME TO CALL *MARY JANE.*
I MEAN, I KNOW SHE DIDN'T TAKE ANY *SEVERE* DAMAGE AT THAT DANCE CLUB BRAWL --*
* IN WEB #102. -- DANNY
-- BUT THERE'S DANGER OF MORE THAN *PHYSICAL* HARM BEING DONE HERE!
A RIFT IS FORMING BETWEEN WHAT MJ *WANTS* ME TO DO, AND WHAT I *HAVE* TO DO!
I DIDN'T *CHOOSE* TO PARTNER UP WITH A MURDERER LIKE VENOM, BUT THIS IS BIGGER THAN MY NEEDS *OR* MARY JANE'S! NO MATTER WHAT THE COST --
-- WE HAVE TO *STOP* CARNAGE!

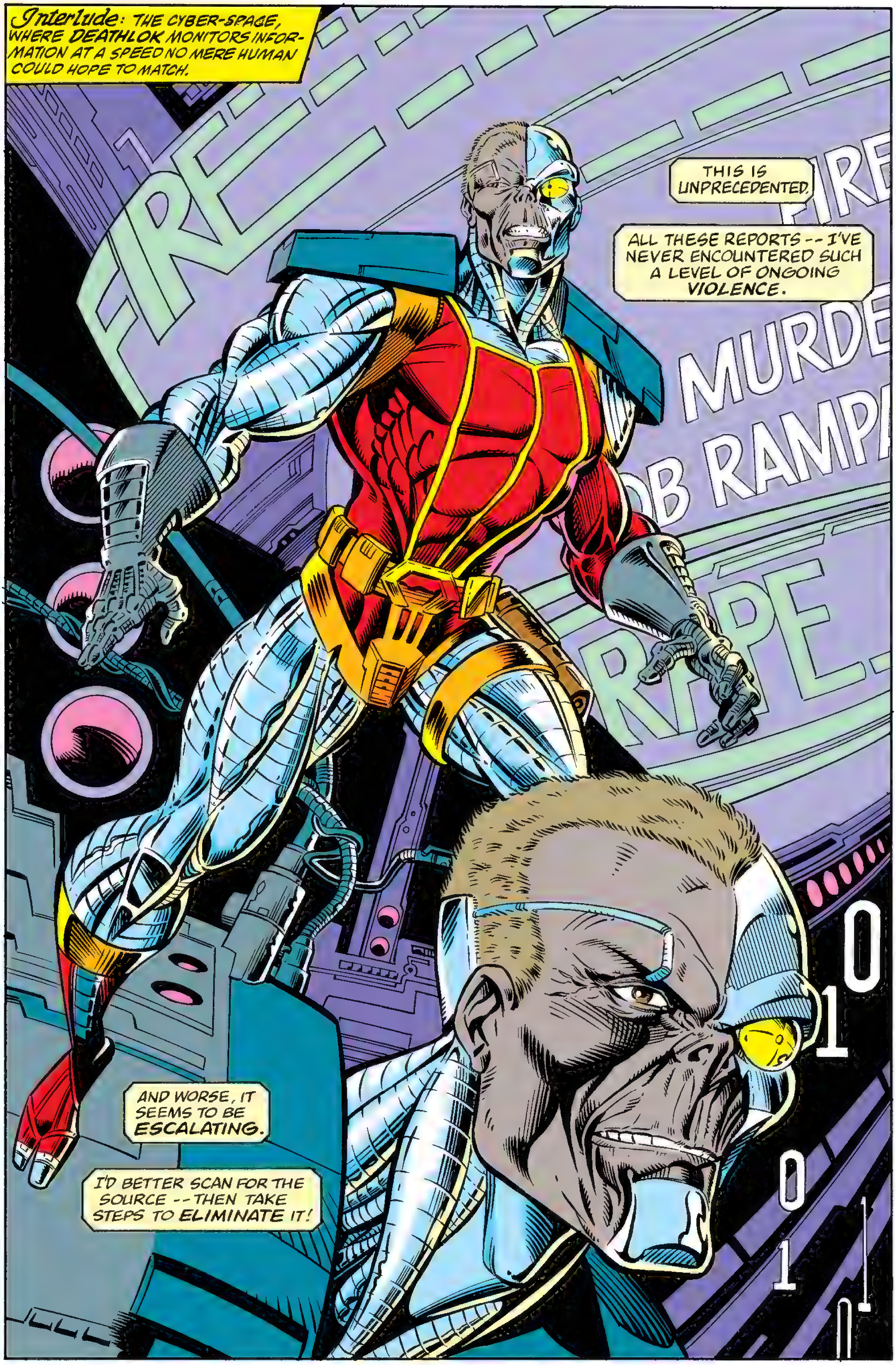

A SENTIMENT SHARED BY MICHAEL MORBIUS, THE LIVING VAMPIRE WHO HAS RECENTLY ALLIED HIMSELF WITH SPIDER-MAN'S CAUSE.
HE'S BEEN SENT TO RAVENCROFT ASYLUM ON A TASK BOTH VITAL--
RAVE
--AND FRAUGHT WITH UNEXPECTED COMPLICATIONS!
NO! HAVE TO IGNORE MY HUNGER! TONIGHT, BLOOD ISN'T THE ANSWER!
THE WOMAN CALLED SHRIEK IS PSYCHOTIC; IN HER OWN WAY, AS DANGEROUS AS CARNAGE HIMSELF!
BUT LITTLE IS KNOWN OF HER, SAVE THAT SHE ESCAPED FROM THIS INSTITUTION!
AND IN A WAR SUCH AS THIS, KNOWLEDGE CAN BE A POWERFUL WEAPON!
AH.
Patient File #6309564
Sandra Deel; alias SHRIEK
PRINTING A HARD COPY WILL TAKE ONLY SECONDS, BUT GETTING IT TO MY ALLIES WILL HAVE TO WAIT! I MUST RETURN TO MY HYPERBARIC CHAMBER, AND SOON!
FOR IT'S ALMOST--


--DAWN, AS NEW YORK'S METROPOLITAN MUSEUM PLAYS HOST TO SOME UNAUTHORIZED VISITORS!
ENOUGH!
I AGREED TO JOIN YOU BECAUSE I WAS TOLD THERE'D BE SINNERS TO KILL! BUT THIS MINDLESS DESTRUCTION HAS NO MEANING!
THAT'S THE WHOLE POINT, DEMOGOBLIN!
BUT YOUR PROMISE, CARNAGE! WHERE ARE OUR UNRIGHTEOUS VICTIMS?
HEY, CHILL OUT! AIN'TCHA EVER HEARD OF AN APPETIZER BEFORE A BIG MEAL?
DOPPELGANGER AN' SHRIEK ARE HAVIN' A GRAND OL' TIME! SO GET INTA THE SPIRIT, WILLYA?
THE PARTY'S JUST STARTIN'!


THAT'S WHERE YOU'RE WRONG, MISTER! THE N.Y.P.D. FORMED THIS EXTREME EMERGENCY TEAM SPECIFICALLY TO HANDLE CRUD LIKE YOU!
SO IF YOU'RE SMART--
--YOU'LL GIVE UP!
P.D.
"SMART"? LEMME SEE... TWO PLUS TWO STILL EQUALS FIVE, DOESN'T IT?
ARROGANCE ISN'T A MORTAL SIN...
...BUT IT WILL DO!
ALL RIGHT, IF THAT'S THE WAY YOU WANT--
--eh?
AAAAGH!


HOLY GEEZ, CARNY! Wh- WHAT'S THAT?
I READ ABOUT HIM WHEN I WAS IN STIR-- THAT'S CARRION! HE DECAYS PEOPLE JUST BY TOUCHIN' 'EM!
N.Y.P.D
USETA BE MY HERO--
--AN' NOW HE'S THE PERFECT PARTNER!
PARTY ON!
HISSSSS!
IIIEEEGGGH!
HEY, I JUST REMEMBERED-- DIDN'T CARRION DIE IN AN EXPLOSION A WHILE BACK?*
*SEE SPECTACULAR #163. --D.


WHO KNOWS-- AN' WHO *CARES?*
AS LONG AS HE KEEPS DRIVIN' THE *BODY COUNT* UP--
--I SAY HE'S ONE OF *US!*
SLOWLY, THE SLAUGHTER DRAWS TO A CLOSE; WHILE SOUTHWARD, IN SOHO...
MARY JANE? ARE YOU THERE?
IT'S LIZ-- *LIZ OSBORN,* FROM DOWNSTAIRS. WE THOUGHT YOU MIGHT LIKE TO HAVE BREAKFAST WITH--
NO!
I... I'M SORRY, LIZ. I WAS OUT LATE LAST NIGHT. I JUST NEED TO REST. OKAY?
WELL... CALL US IF YOU NEED US.
WHAT I *NEED* IS FOR *PETER* TO COME HOME!
HE SWORE HE'D GIVE UP BEING *SPIDER-MAN* FOR A WHILE--
-- BUT INSTEAD HE'S OUT FIGHTING THE WAVE OF BIZARRE *VIOLENCE* THAT'S SWEEPING THE CITY! WHICH LEAVES ME, THE HERO'S *WIFE*--
--ON MY *OWN!*

Interlude: THE CYBER-SPACE, WHERE DEATHLOK MONITORS INFORMATION AT A SPEED NO MERE HUMAN COULD HOPE TO MATCH.
FIRE
FIRE
MURDE
OB RAMPA
RAPE.
THIS IS UNPRECEDENTED.
ALL THESE REPORTS -- I'VE NEVER ENCOUNTERED SUCH A LEVEL OF ONGOING VIOLENCE.
AND WORSE, IT SEEMS TO BE ESCALATING.
I'D BETTER SCAN FOR THE SOURCE -- THEN TAKE STEPS TO ELIMINATE IT!
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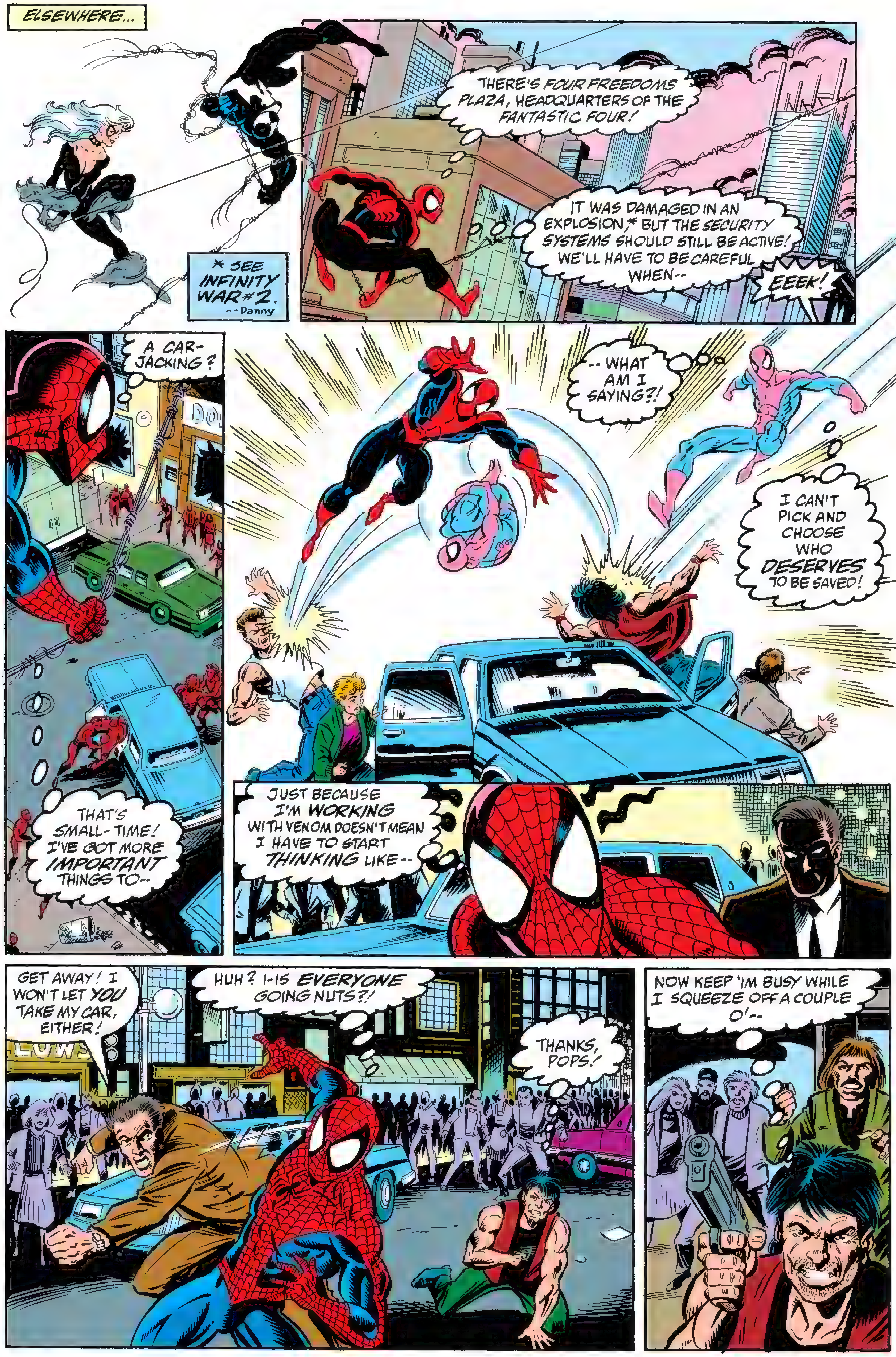
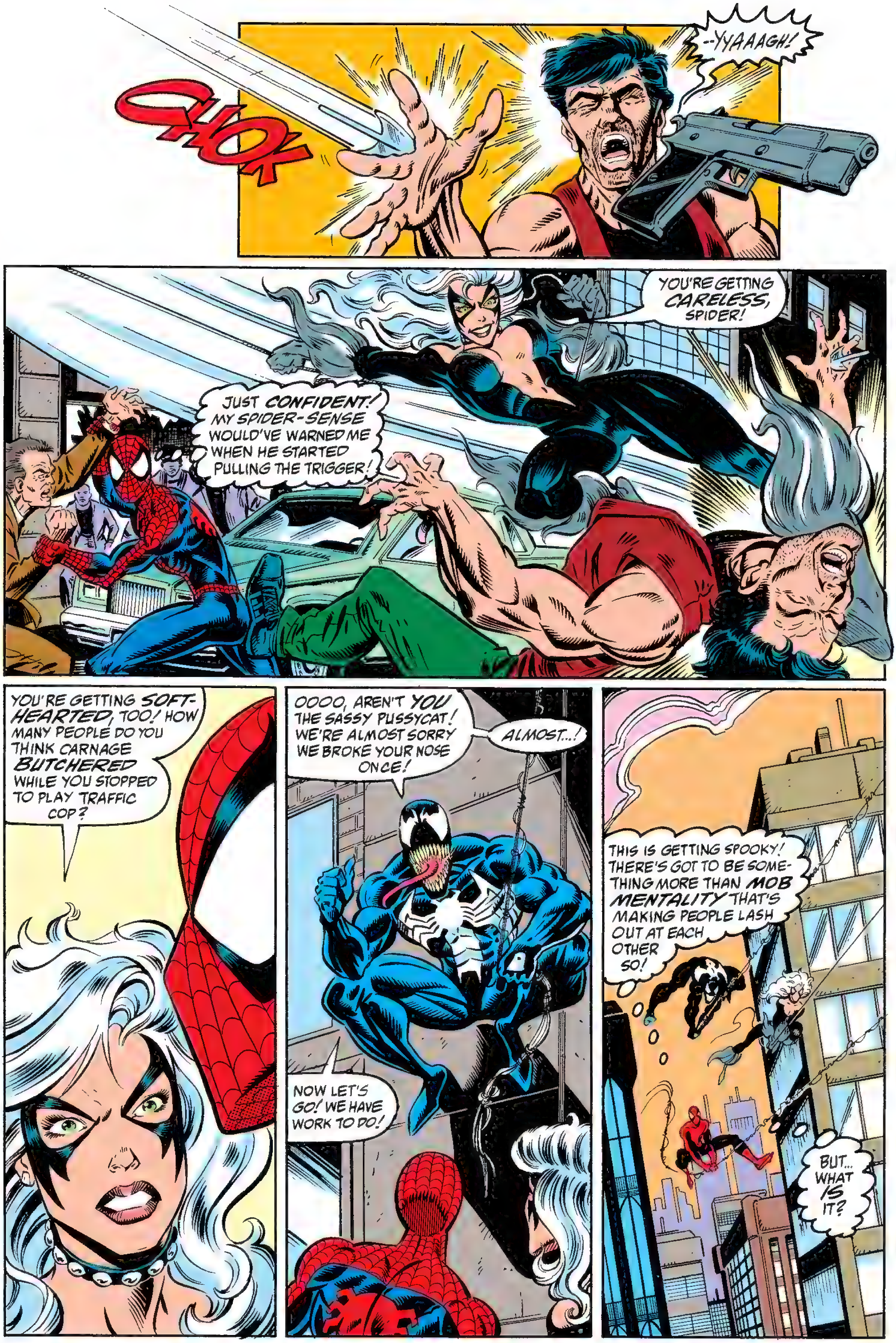
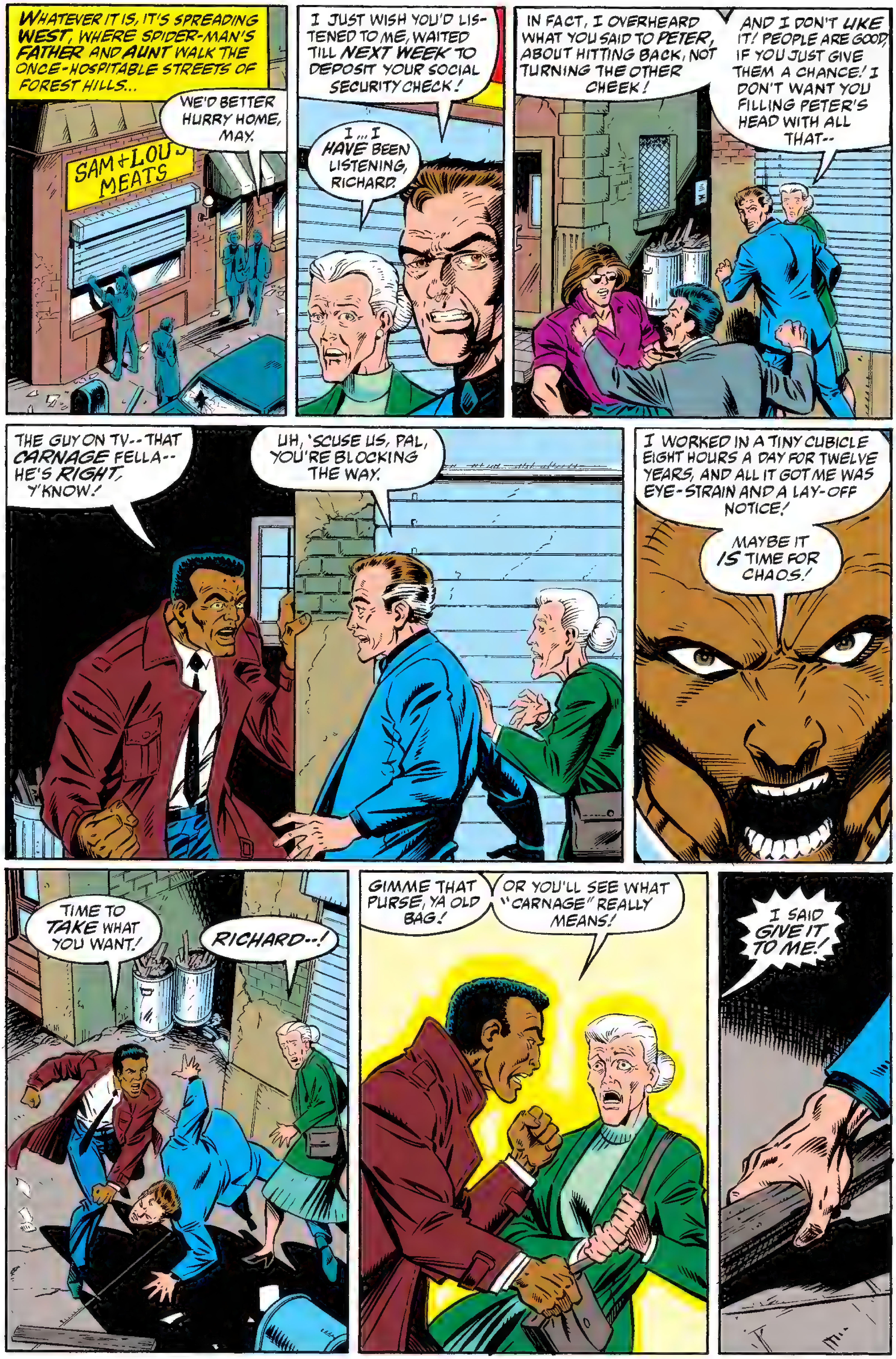
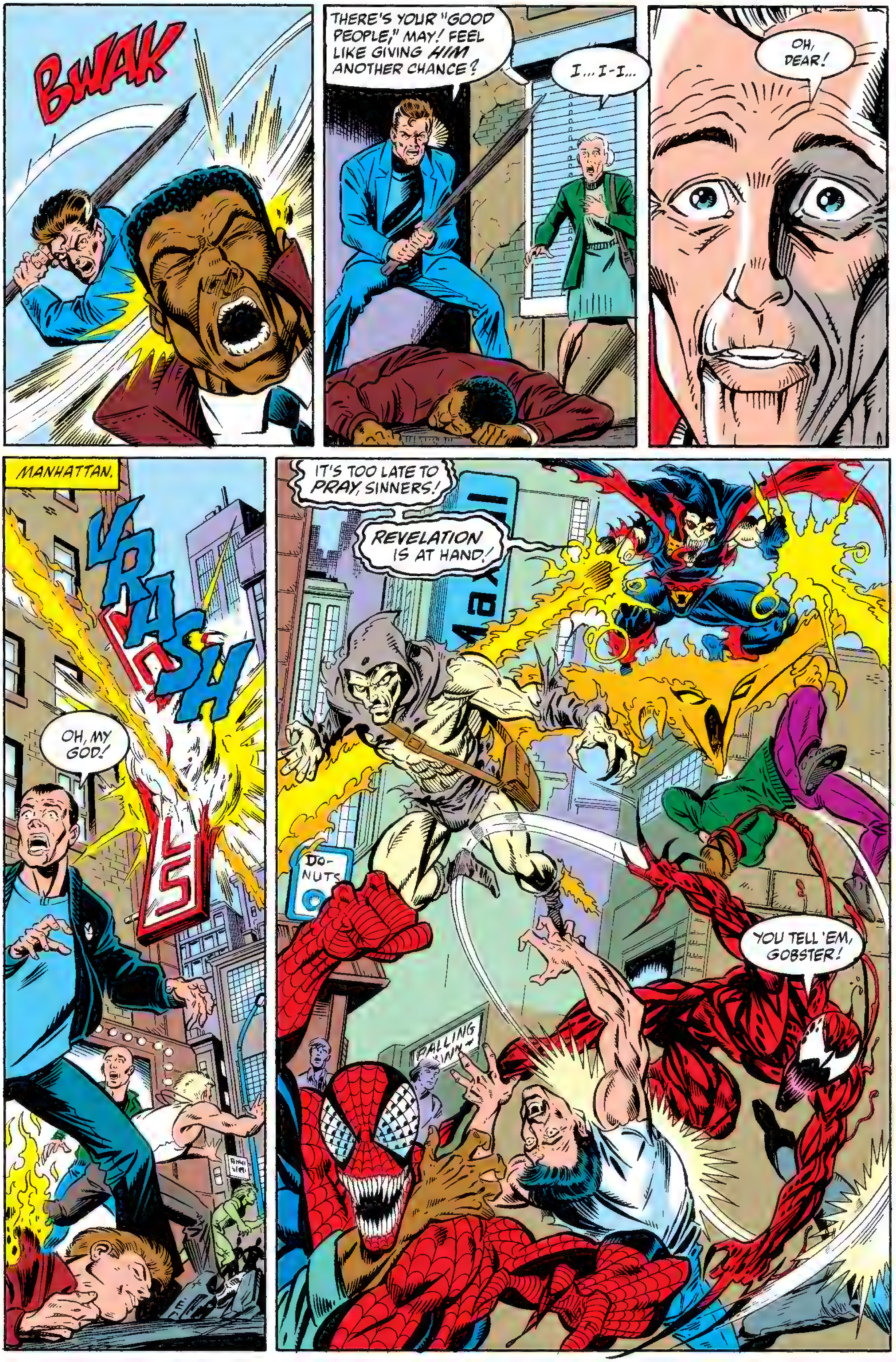
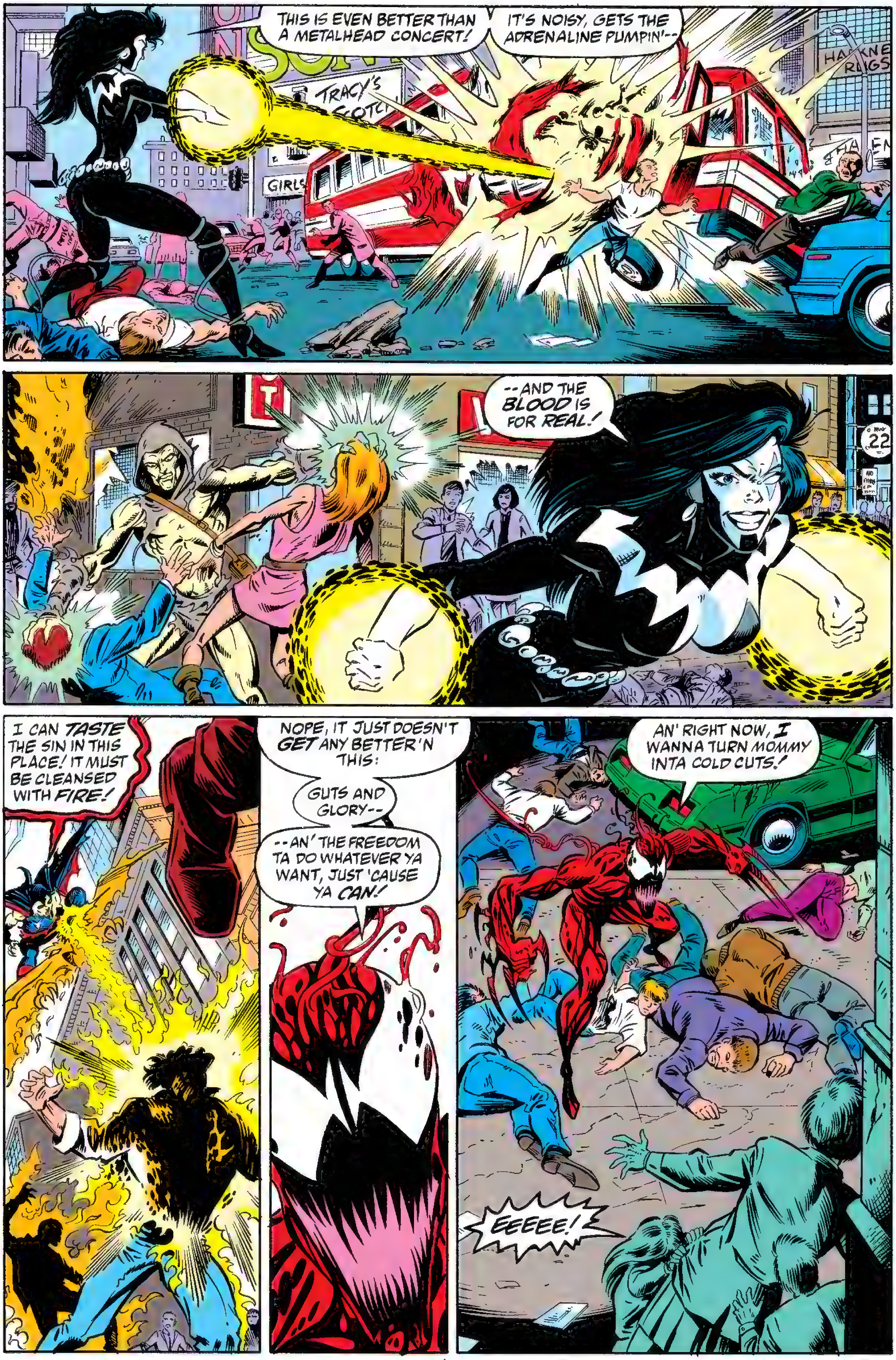
0
1

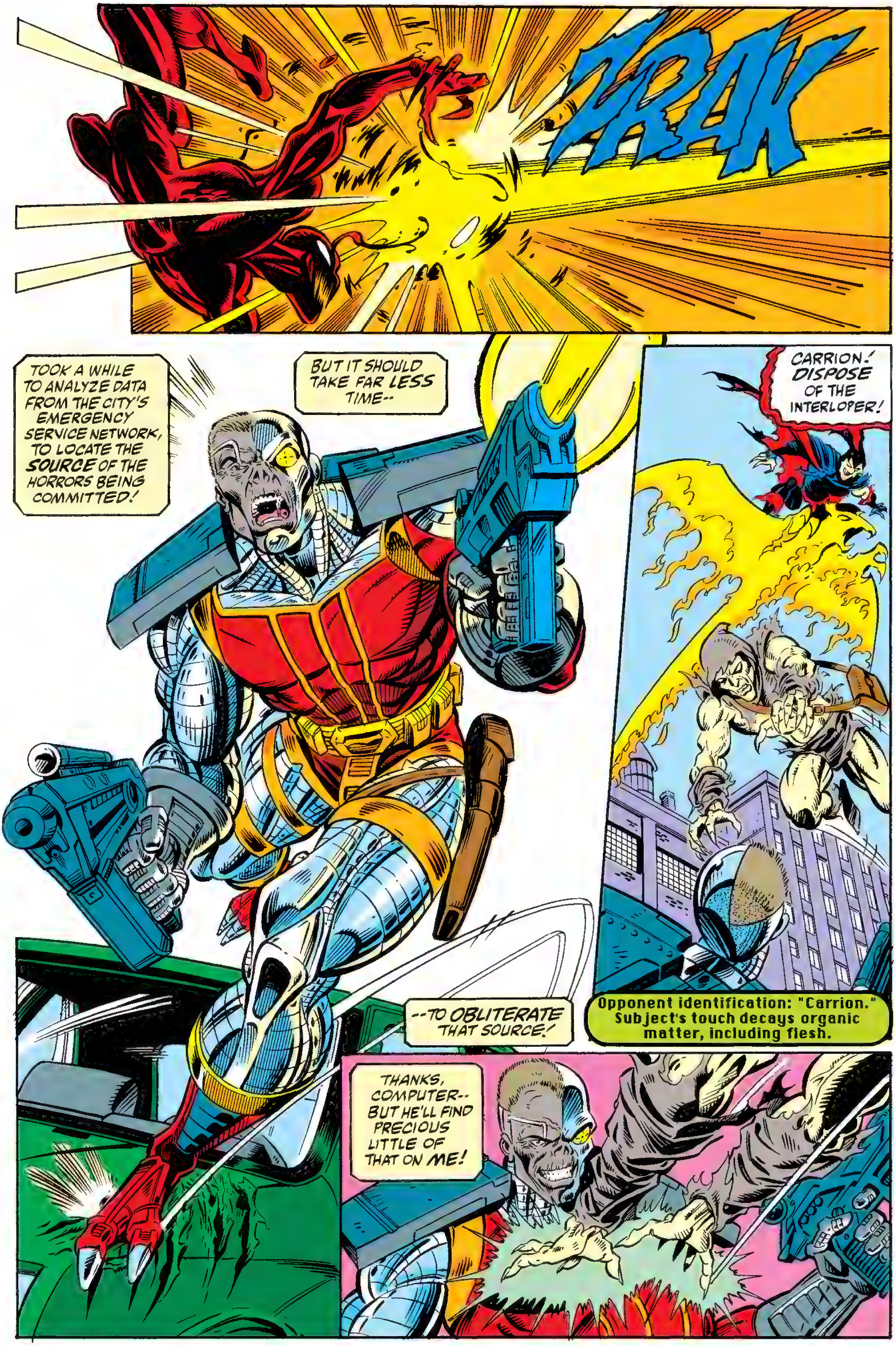

ELSEWHERE...
THERE'S FOUR FREEDOMS PLAZA, HEADQUARTERS OF THE FANTASTIC FOUR!
IT WAS DAMAGED IN AN EXPLOSION,* BUT THE SECURITY SYSTEMS SHOULD STILL BE ACTIVE! WE'LL HAVE TO BE CAREFUL WHEN--
EEEK!
* SEE INFINITY WAR #2. --Danny
A CAR-JACKING?
THAT'S SMALL-TIME! I'VE GOT MORE IMPORTANT THINGS TO--
-- WHAT AM I SAYING?!
I CAN'T PICK AND CHOOSE WHO DESERVES TO BE SAVED!
JUST BECAUSE I'M WORKING WITH VENOM DOESN'T MEAN I HAVE TO START THINKING LIKE--
GET AWAY! I WON'T LET YOU TAKE MY CAR, EITHER!
HUH? I-IS EVERYONE GOING NUTS?!
THANKS, POPS!
LOWS
NOW KEEP 'IM BUSY WHILE I SQUEEZE OFF A COUPLE O'--

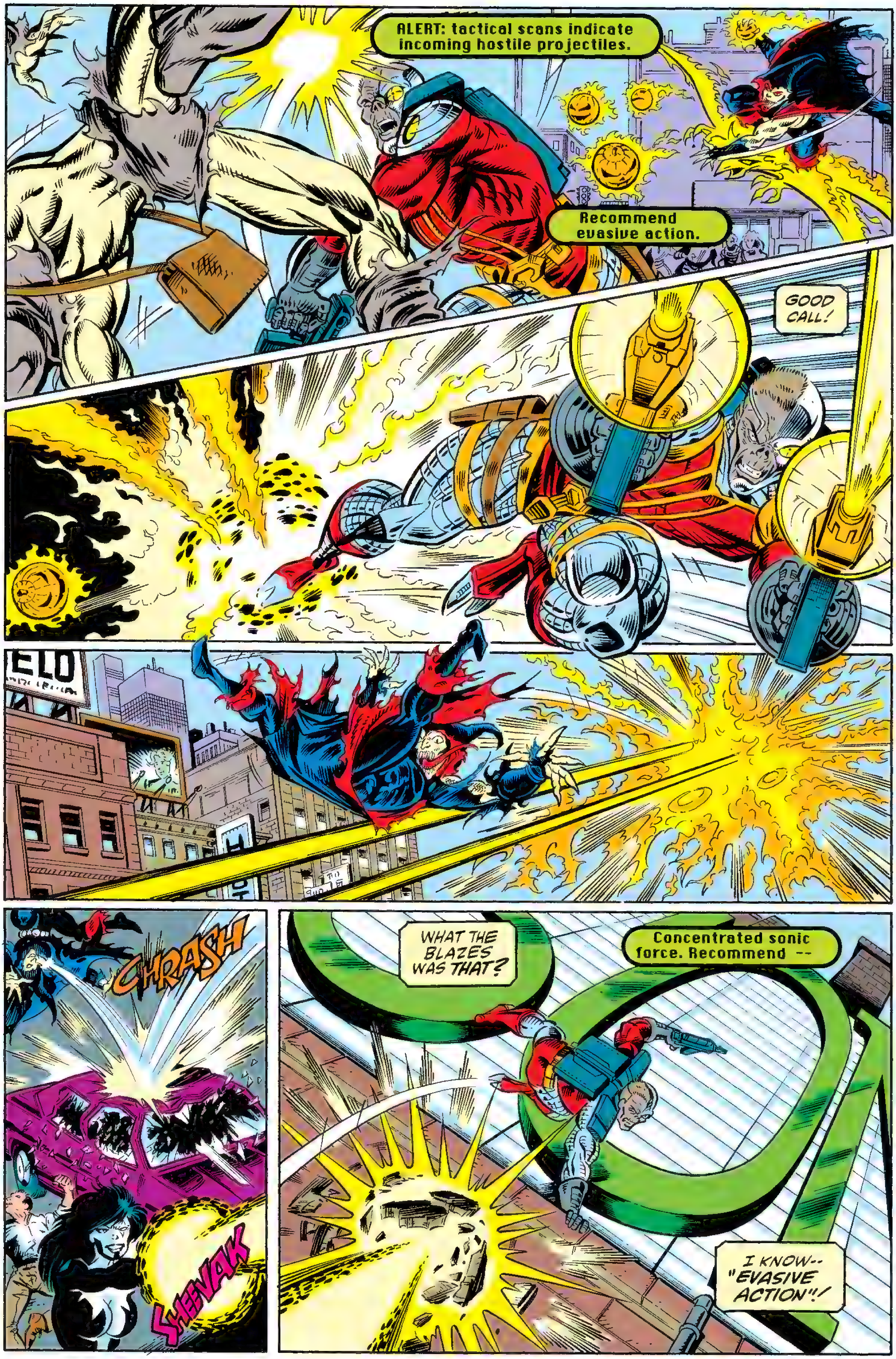

CHOK
--YYAAAGH!
YOU'RE GETTING CARELESS, SPIDER!
JUST CONFIDENT! MY SPIDER-SENSE WOULD'VE WARNED ME WHEN HE STARTED PULLING THE TRIGGER!
YOU'RE GETTING SOFT-HEARTED, TOO! HOW MANY PEOPLE DO YOU THINK CARNAGE BUTCHERED WHILE YOU STOPPED TO PLAY TRAFFIC COP?
OOOO, AREN'T YOU THE SASSY PUSSYCAT! WE'RE ALMOST SORRY WE BROKE YOUR NOSE ONCE!
ALMOST...!
NOW LET'S GO! WE HAVE WORK TO DO!
THIS IS GETTING SPOOKY! THERE'S GOT TO BE SOMETHING MORE THAN MOB MENTALITY THAT'S MAKING PEOPLE LASH OUT AT EACH OTHER SO!
BUT... WHAT IS IT?

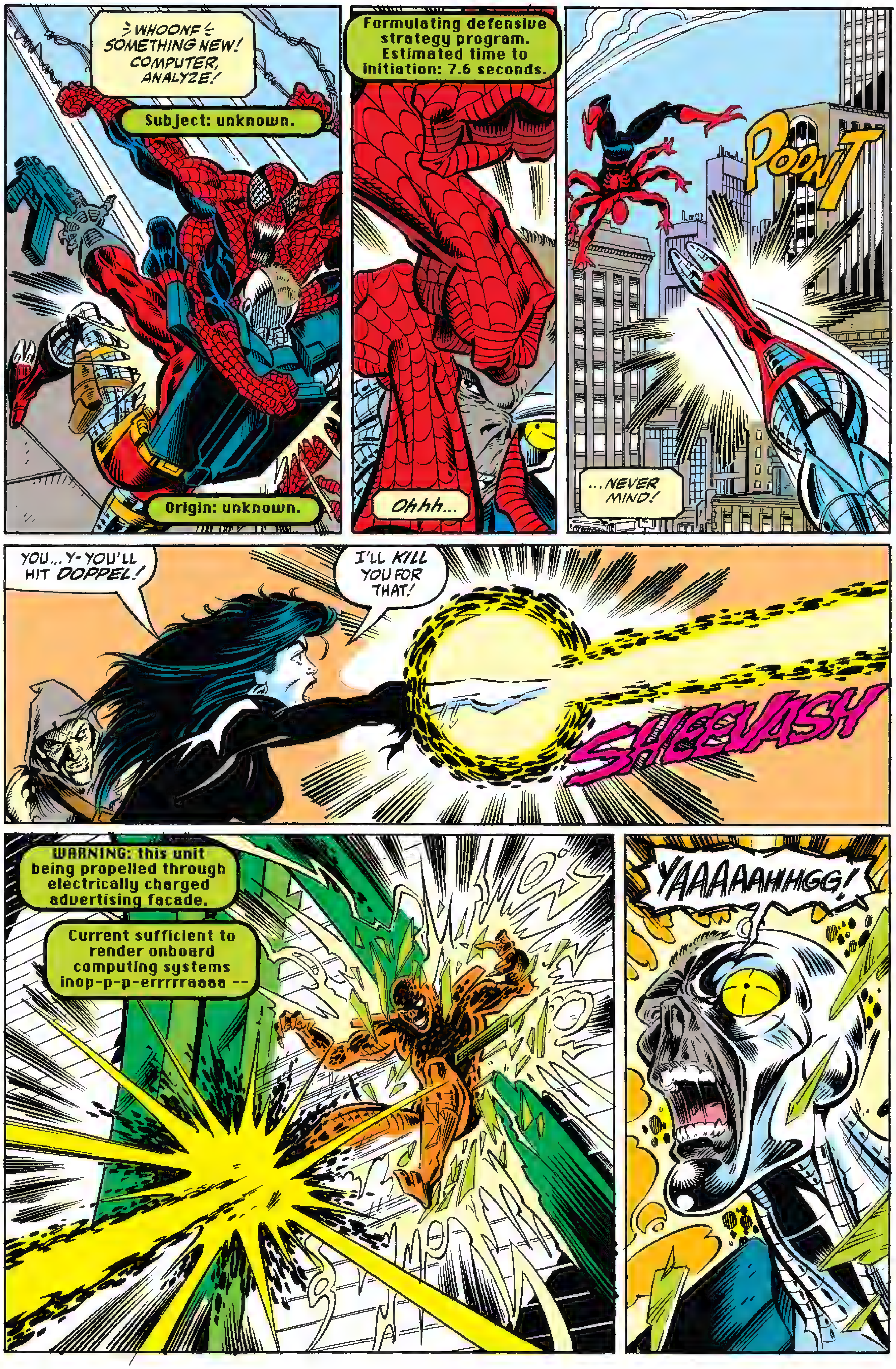

WHATEVER IT IS, IT'S SPREADING WEST, WHERE SPIDER-MAN'S FATHER AND AUNT WALK THE ONCE-HOSPITABLE STREETS OF FOREST HILLS...
SAM + LOU'S MEATS
WE'D BETTER HURRY HOME, MAY.
I JUST WISH YOU'D LISTENED TO ME, WAITED TILL NEXT WEEK TO DEPOSIT YOUR SOCIAL SECURITY CHECK!
I...I HAVE BEEN LISTENING, RICHARD.
IN FACT, I OVERHEARD WHAT YOU SAID TO PETER, ABOUT HITTING BACK, NOT TURNING THE OTHER CHEEK!
AND I DON'T LIKE IT! PEOPLE ARE GOOD, IF YOU JUST GIVE THEM A CHANCE! I DON'T WANT YOU FILLING PETER'S HEAD WITH ALL THAT--
THE GUY ON TV--THAT CARNAGE FELLA--HE'S RIGHT, Y'KNOW!
UH, 'SCUSE US, PAL, YOU'RE BLOCKING THE WAY.
I WORKED IN A TINY CUBICLE EIGHT HOURS A DAY FOR TWELVE YEARS, AND ALL IT GOT ME WAS EYE-STRAIN AND A LAY-OFF NOTICE!
MAYBE IT IS TIME FOR CHAOS!
TIME TO TAKE WHAT YOU WANT!
RICHARD--!
GIMME THAT PURSE, YA OLD BAG!
OR YOU'LL SEE WHAT "CARNAGE" REALLY MEANS!
I SAID GIVE IT TO ME!


BWAK
THERE'S YOUR "GOOD PEOPLE," MAY! FEEL LIKE GIVING HIM ANOTHER CHANCE?
I... I-I...
OH, DEAR!
MANHATTAN.
VRASH
OH, MY GOD!
IT'S TOO LATE TO PRAY, SINNERS!
REVELATION IS AT HAND!
DO-NUTS
YOU TELL 'EM, GOBSTER!

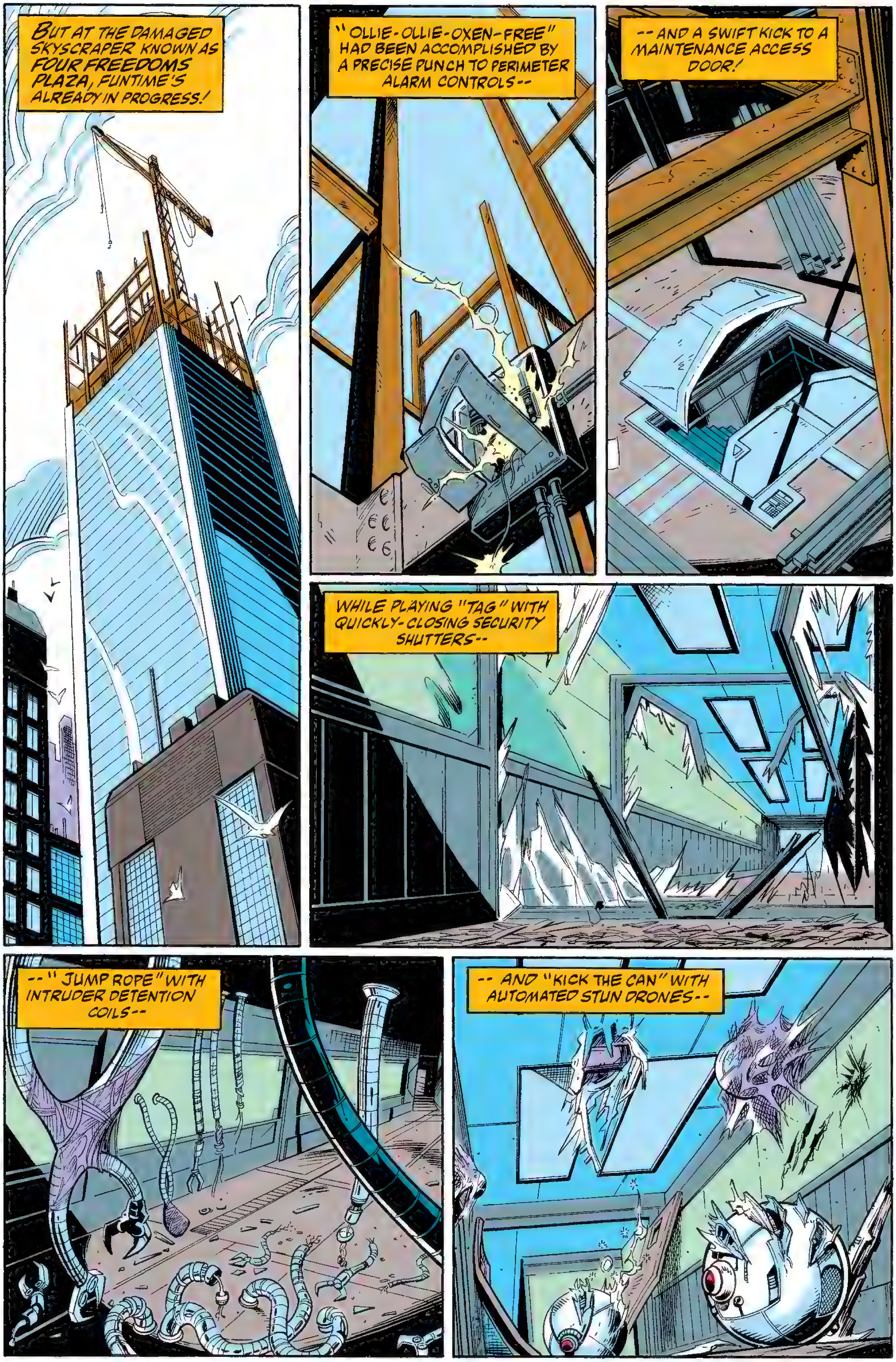

THIS IS EVEN BETTER THAN A METALHEAD CONCERT!
IT'S NOISY, GETS THE ADRENALINE PUMPIN'--
TRACY'S
GIRLS
--AND THE BLOOD IS FOR REAL!
22
I CAN TASTE THE SIN IN THIS PLACE! IT MUST BE CLEANSED WITH FIRE!
NOPE, IT JUST DOESN'T GET ANY BETTER'N THIS:
GUTS AND GLORY--
--AN' THE FREEDOM TA DO WHATEVER YA WANT, JUST 'CAUSE YA CAN!
AN' RIGHT NOW, I WANNA TURN MOMMY INTA COLD CUTS!
EEEEE!

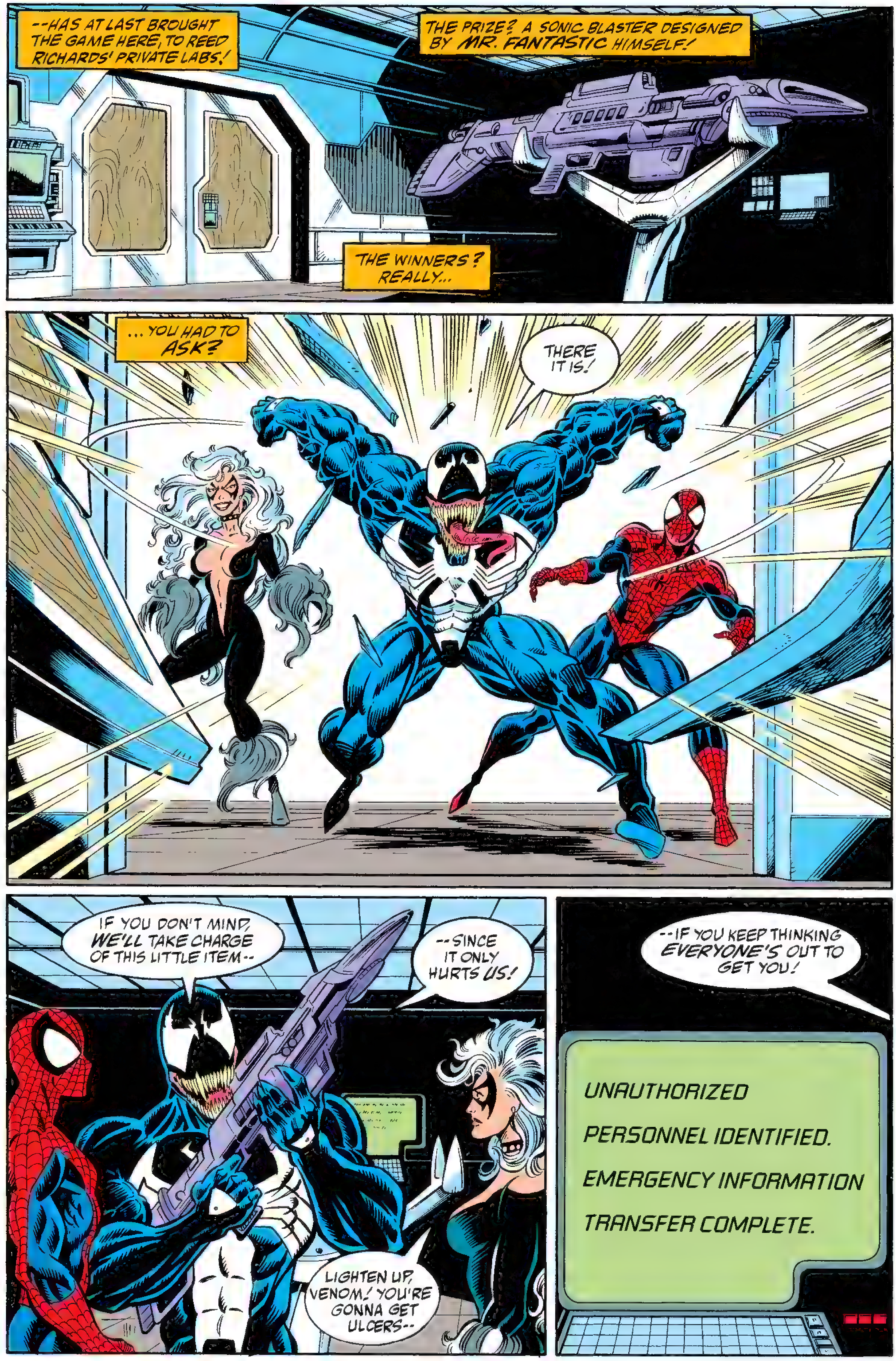

TRAK
TOOK A WHILE TO ANALYZE DATA FROM THE CITY'S EMERGENCY SERVICE NETWORK, TO LOCATE THE SOURCE OF THE HORRORS BEING COMMITTED!
BUT IT SHOULD TAKE FAR LESS TIME--
CARRION! DISPOSE OF THE INTERLOPER!
--TO OBLITERATE THAT SOURCE!
Opponent identification: "Carrion." Subject's touch decays organic matter, including flesh.
THANKS, COMPUTER-- BUT HE'LL FIND PRECIOUS LITTLE OF THAT ON ME!

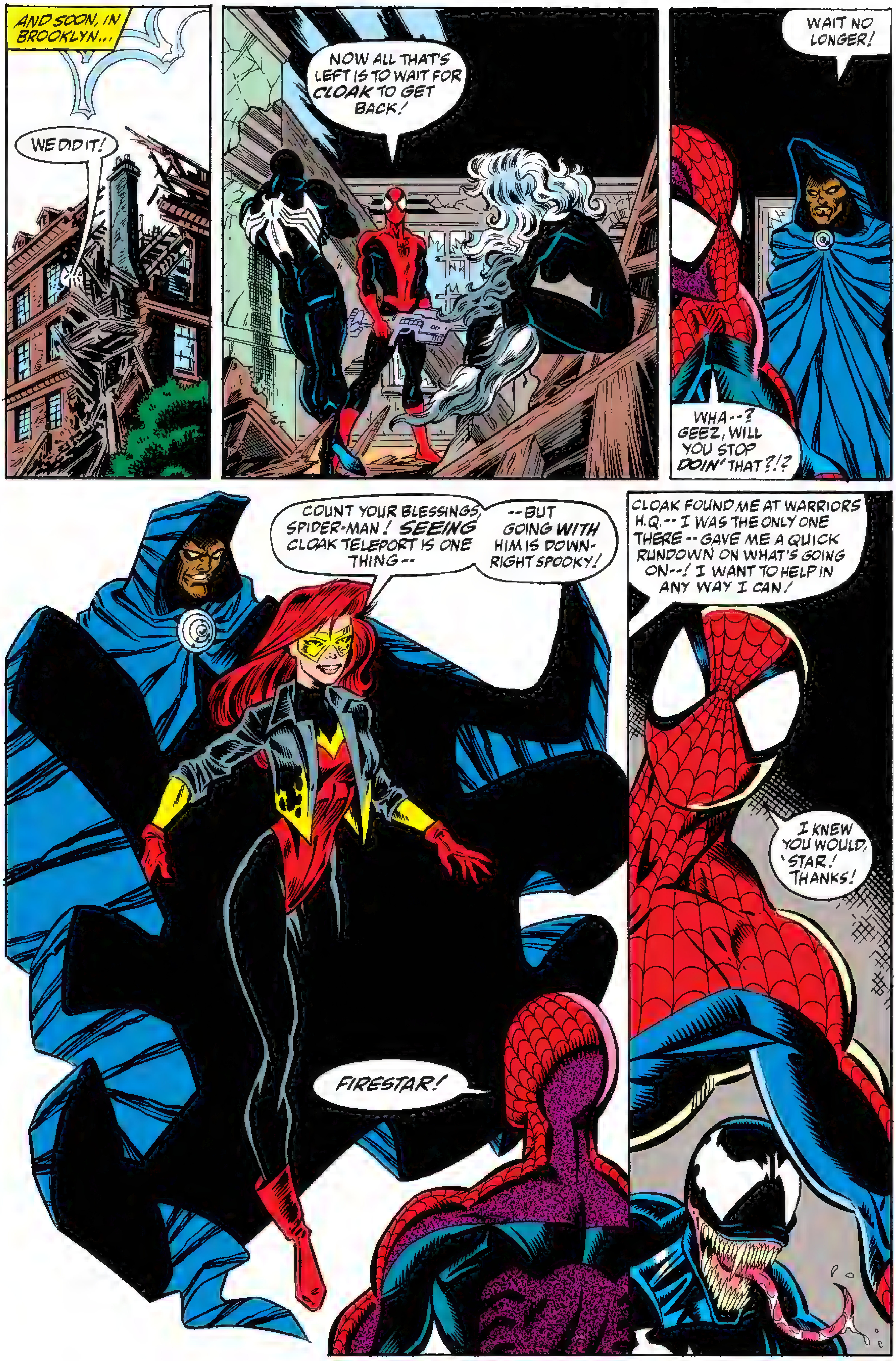

ALERT: tactical scans indicate incoming hostile projectiles.
Recommend evasive action.
GOOD CALL!
ELO
CHRASH
SHEEVAK
WHAT THE BLAZES WAS THAT?
Concentrated sonic force. Recommend --
I KNOW-- "EVASIVE ACTION"!

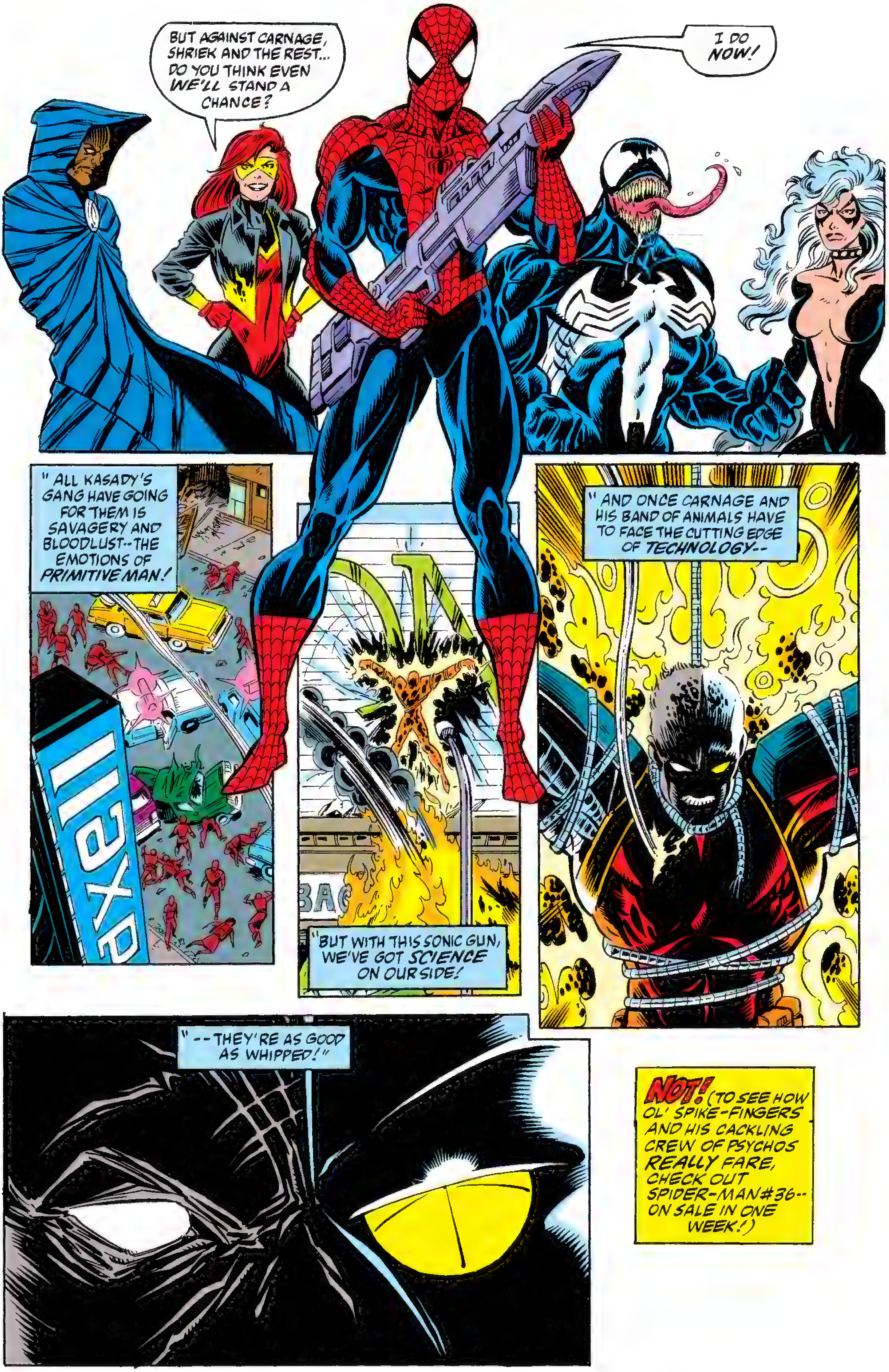

WHOONF SOMETHING NEW! COMPUTER, ANALYZE!
Subject: unknown.
Origin: unknown.
Formulating defensive strategy program. Estimated time to initiation: 7.6 seconds.
Ohhh...
POONT
...NEVER MIND!
YOU... Y-YOU'LL HIT DOPPEL!
I'LL KILL YOU FOR THAT!
SHEEVASH
WARNING: this unit being propelled through electrically charged advertising facade.
Current sufficient to render onboard computing systems inop-p-p-errrrraaaa --
YAAAAAHHGG!

YOU SUPER-TYPES REALLY THINK YOU'RE HOT STUFF, DON'TCHA?
JUST 'CAUSE YA GOT POWER, YA THINK YOU'RE ALWAYS RIGHT!
WELL, I GOT NEWS FOR YA, BUB--THIS TIME YOU'RE WRONG!
DEAD WRONG!
GATHER 'ROUND, KIDDIES! WE'RE GONNA HAVE SOME REAL FUN NOW...!


BUT AT THE DAMAGED SKYSCRAPER KNOWN AS FOUR FREEDOMS PLAZA, FUNTIME'S ALREADY IN PROGRESS!
"OLLIE-OLLIE-OXEN-FREE" HAD BEEN ACCOMPLISHED BY A PRECISE PUNCH TO PERIMETER ALARM CONTROLS--
--AND A SWIFT KICK TO A MAINTENANCE ACCESS DOOR!
WHILE PLAYING "TAG" WITH QUICKLY-CLOSING SECURITY SHUTTERS--
--"JUMP ROPE" WITH INTRUDER DETENTION COILS--
--AND "KICK THE CAN" WITH AUTOMATED STUN DRONES--


--HAS AT LAST BROUGHT THE GAME HERE, TO REED RICHARDS' PRIVATE LABS!
THE PRIZE? A SONIC BLASTER DESIGNED BY MR. FANTASTIC HIMSELF!
THE WINNERS? REALLY...
...YOU HAD TO ASK?
THERE IT IS!
IF YOU DON'T MIND, WE'LL TAKE CHARGE OF THIS LITTLE ITEM--
--SINCE IT ONLY HURTS US!
LIGHTEN UP, VENOM! YOU'RE GONNA GET ULCERS--
--IF YOU KEEP THINKING EVERYONE'S OUT TO GET YOU!
UNAUTHORIZED PERSONNEL IDENTIFIED.
EMERGENCY INFORMATION TRANSFER COMPLETE.


AND SOON, IN BROOKLYN...
WE DID IT!
NOW ALL THAT'S LEFT IS TO WAIT FOR *CLOAK* TO GET BACK!
WAIT NO LONGER!
WHA--? GEEZ, WILL YOU STOP *DOIN'* THAT?!?
COUNT YOUR BLESSINGS, SPIDER-MAN! *SEEING* CLOAK TELEPORT IS ONE THING--
--BUT GOING *WITH* HIM IS DOWNRIGHT SPOOKY!
FIRESTAR!
CLOAK FOUND ME AT WARRIORS H.Q.-- I WAS THE ONLY ONE THERE--GAVE ME A QUICK RUNDOWN ON WHAT'S GOING ON--! I WANT TO HELP IN ANY WAY I CAN!
I KNEW YOU WOULD, 'STAR! THANKS!


BUT AGAINST CARNAGE, SHRIEK AND THE REST... DO YOU THINK EVEN *WE'LL* STAND A CHANCE?
I DO *NOW!*
"ALL KASADY'S GANG HAVE GOING FOR THEM IS SAVAGERY AND BLOODLUST--THE EMOTIONS OF *PRIMITIVE MAN!*
"BUT WITH THIS SONIC GUN, WE'VE GOT *SCIENCE* ON OUR SIDE!
"AND ONCE CARNAGE AND HIS BAND OF ANIMALS HAVE TO FACE THE CUTTING EDGE OF *TECHNOLOGY--*
"--THEY'RE AS GOOD AS WHIPPED!"
NOT! (TO SEE HOW OL' SPIKE-FINGERS AND HIS CACKLING CREW OF PSYCHOS *REALLY* FARE, CHECK OUT SPIDER-MAN #36--ON SALE IN ONE WEEK!)

MARVEL® COMICS
MAXIMUM CARNAGE™ PART 8 OF 14
SPIDER-MAN®
$1.75 US
$2.25 CAN
36
JUL
CC 01321
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
NO MORE MISTER NICE VENOM!
Tom Lyle/1993

WHEN BRUTAL SERIAL-KILLER CLETUS KASADY--a.k.a. THE SUPER-PSYCHO CARNAGE--FIRST MADE HIS BLOODY ESCAPE FROM RAVENCROFT HOSPITAL...
...NEW YORK LOCKED UP TIGHT.
DAILY BUGLE
BUT WHEN CARNAGE RECRUITED SHRIEK, DEMOGOBLIN, THE SPIDER-DOPPELGANGER, AND CARRION FOR HIS RUTHLESS RAMPAGE THROUGH SHATTERED STREETS...
...NEW YORK BURST WIDE OPEN!
--DOWNTOWN LOOTING, UPTOWN RIOTING, WILDING IN CENTRAL PARK. THIS ENTIRE CITY'S UNDER SIEGE, JONAH--
FROM ITSELF.
AND WE'VE GOT REPORTERS OUT THERE COVERING THE WHOLE MESS, URICH... BUT ALL WE CAN DO IS PRINT THE--

[redacted]

Stan Lee PRESENTS:
HATE IS IN THE AIR
"MAXIMUM CARNAGE" -- PART 8
TERRY KAVANAGH... WRITER
TOM LYLE....... PENCILER
SCOTT HANNA........ INKER
RICK PARKER..... LETTERS
TINSLEY&MORAN...COLORING
DANNY FINGEROTH... EDITOR
TOM DEFALCO.. EDITOR IN CHIEF
--UGLY TRUTH?!
GLAD YOU COULD FINALLY JOIN US, JAMESON...!
I'VE BEEN KEEPING YOUR SEAT WARM FOR YOU, J.J....
THWIP

...BUT YOU *WON'T* LIKE WHAT WE HAVE TO SAY.
COMPANY YOU KEEP CONFIRMS ALL MY *WORST* ACCUSATIONS ABOUT YOU OVER THE YEARS, *SPIDER-MAN.* VENOM--A RUTHLESS *KILLER.* BLACK CAT--A GLORIFIED *BURGLAR.*
AND *FIRESTAR* AND *CLOAK* ARE NOTHING MORE THAN COMMON *VIGILANTES--!*
CHOOSE YOUR WORDS CAREFULLY, JAMESON...
...*ONE* OF OUR COMPANY--MY PRECIOUS DAGGER--HAS ALREADY *SACRIFICED HER LIFE* TO TRY AND SAVE THIS DISMAL CITY FROM CARNAGE AND HIS TWISTED FAMILY.
MEANWHILE, THE WHOLE TOWN'S *COMING APART* AT THE SEAMS FROM WITHIN... AND *I'VE* GOT A NEWSPAPER TO PUBLISH, SO--
THAT'S WHY WE'RE HERE...
...WE NEED YOU TO HELP US SET A *TRAP.*
THIS IS TWO TOO MANY TIMES IN AS MANY DAYS THAT MY PRIVATE OFFICE HAS BEEN *INVADED* BY SUPER-POWERED FREAKS SPOUTING *DEMANDS,* CAT--
--HEADS WILL ROLL IN THE SECURITY DEPARTMENT--
--AND I OWE YOU THE SAME *EXACT* ANSWER I GAVE CARNAGE WHEN HE TRIED THIS LITTLE STUNT...

UH... UNLESS OF COURSE IT WOULD BE IN EVERYONE'S BEST INTERESTS FOR ME TO COMPLY IN THIS COMPLETELY DIFFERENT SITUATION...
SHLUURP
I SUPPOSE I DO HAVE A CIVIC DUTY TO HELP YOU ALL SLAUGHTER EACH OTHER.
IF ALL GOES WELL, JAMESON--
--IT STILL MIGHT COME DOWN TO THAT.
NOT SURE I LIKE WHAT I'M SEEING HERE...
WE SHOULDN'T HAVE TO REDUCE OURSELVES TO THE SAME KINDS OF QUESTIONABLE TACTICS AS CARNAGE TO GET THE BUGLE TO PRINT OUR INVITATION...
"...BUT IT WORKS."
E. 52ND
M 6
DAILY BUGLE
CARNAGE COME HOME
HEY, PAL...
FINISHED WITH THAT PAPER YET?!
URK--
DAILY BUG
CARNAGE COME HOME
SHKT

THE CONVERTED LOFT OF PETER PARKER-- THE MAN UNDER THE SPIDER-MAN MASK--REMAINS ONE OF THE FEW POCKETS OF PEACE LEFT ON THE BELEAGUERED ISLAND OF MANHATTAN...
...FOR THE MOMENT.
--STILL SAY THAT SEVENTY-FIVE DOLLARS FROM FOREST HILLS TO HERE IS PURE EXTORTION, MISTER!
PLEASE, RICHARD-- TIMES HAVE CHANGED IN THE DECADES WE WERE... GONE.
DANGER PAY, BUDDY... AND I NEVER WOULD'VE DRIVEN INTO THIS WAR-ZONE IF YOU NUTS HADN'T AGREED TO IT UP-FRONT.
ON DUTY
NO REASON TO BE DISRESPECTFUL TO MY BROTHER-IN-LAW, YOUNG MAN...
...WE'RE HERE ON FAMILY BUSINESS.
VROOOM
I JUST GOT SO ANXIOUS WHEN WE COULDN'T GET THROUGH TO PETER OR MARY JANE...
I'M EQUALLY CONCERNED ABOUT OUR SON AND HIS WIFE, MARY.
BUT I COULD HARDLY LEAVE YOU OR MAY ALONE IN QUEENS DURING ALL THIS--
--TROUBLE?!
NEIGHBORHOOD BELONGS TO THE BEDROCKS NOW, GEEZERS...
AND YOU GOTTA PAY THE STREET TAX!

WRONG PLACE TO PLAY, KIDS...
WHO--?!
...FLASH THOMPSON PROTECTS HIS OWN!
THOK
THOP
BREAK HIM, ROCKS...
...THERE'S STILL THREE OF US LEFT AGAINST THIS ONE LOUSY TOUGH GUY--
whff
THOK
POOM
THOMPSON AND THE PARKERS ARE FRIENDS OF THE FAMILY, PUNKS...
SKRAASH
WAK
TOOM
... AND THIS BUILDING IS UNDER THE PROTECTION OF THE MOLTEN MAN!
SURE KNOW HOW TO MAKE AN IMPACT, MARK--
--BUT I WAS JUST LURING THEM INTO A FALSE SENSE OF SECURITY...
SOON...
--NOBODY HERE'S HEARD FROM FELICIA HARDY IN DAYS, FLASH.
BUT IT SURE WAS LUCKY FOR US HE CAME BY TO CHECK ON HIS GIRLFRIEND WHEN HE DID, Mr. RAXTON...
I'M SORRY THAT NORMIE ACCIDENTALLY KNOCKED YOUR PHONE OFF ITS HOOK DURING OUR EARLIER VISIT, M.J.--
-- BUT AT LEAST MY BROTHER HEARD THE COMMOTION FROM OUR APARTMENT IN TIME TO PREVENT ANY REAL HARM.

IN THE SILENT SHADOWS OF PROSPECT PARK'S SPRAWLING GRANDEUR, THE ROTTING REMAINS OF THE BROODING BROOKLYN ORPHANAGE STILL STAND AS OMINOUS TESTAMENT...
...TO THE DARK FORCES THAT SHAPED CARNAGE HIMSELF.
HOME SWEET HOME, MY FELLOW OUTCASTS--!
AN ABANDONED INSTITUTION OFFERS NO WORTHY TARGETS FOR OUR RIGHTEOUS WRATH, CARNAGE!
AT THE MOMENT, DEMOGOBLIN...
...BUT MY TRUSTY SPIDER-DOPPELGANGER-- AND EVEN THE STRAY CARRION WE'VE PICKED UP--CAN'T SEEM TO RESIST THE FOREBODING POTENTIAL OF THIS HOUSE OF HORRORS.
IT'S EVERYTHING WE EVER COULD HAVE HOPED FOR...!

ANY CHANCE OF A MAGICALLY-MALICIOUS MYSTERY TOUR, BIG C...?
IT APPEARS WE HAVE NOTHING TO KILL YET BUT TIME, MY DEAR SHRIEK...
...SO WELCOME TO MY NIGHTMARE, BOY-TOYS AND GHOULS!
YURP YURP
A STROLL DOWN CLETUS KASADY'S LONG AND WINDING MEMORY LANE MIGHT BE JUST WHAT IT TAKES--
--TO FINALLY MAKE THE REST OF YOU FULLY UNDERSTAND WHAT CARNAGE IS TRULY ALL ABOUT...!
PIZZA

AAAHH, THE PUNGENT AROMA OF SPOILED LEFTOVERS...!
AFTER I KILLED DAD FOR KILLING MOM FOR TRYING TO KILL ME--
--OR WAS IT THE OTHER WAY AROUND?--
"-- I DIDN'T REALLY 'WAKE UP' AGAIN UNTIL LITTLE CLETUS WAS ALMOST EIGHT YEARS OLD AND ALREADY A WELL-ESTABLISHED SCAPEGOAT OF THE CAFETERIA BULLIES."
EARTH TO KASADY... EARTH TO KASADY...!
GROUND ZERO COMING UP FAST--!
NOOO...
...PLEEAASE!
SKROOOM
PUMPKIN-BOMB SHEDS A LITTLE LIGHT ON THE NEXT ROOM...
NONE OF THE RESIDENTS COULD EVER FORGET THIS ROOM, 'GOBLIN...
FSSS
SNK
WE'RE NOT FINISHED YET, BOY--!
"... BROOKLYN ORPHANAGE WAS WAY AHEAD OF ITS TIME WHEN IT CAME TO THE CONCEPT OF 'TOUGH LOVE!'"
NOOOOOOO...

NEVER AGAIN!
SCHK
SCHK
SCHK
SCHK
SCHK
KRAA..AK
THE CEILING--!
PROTECT OUR BROOD AT ALL COSTS, SHRIEK...
HSSS
SKREEE
BUT LIMIT THE DAMAGE OF YOUR SONIC BURSTS TO A MINIMUM.
AFTER A WHILE, I FOUND MY OWN WAYS TO ADJUST TO--AND EVEN USE--MY BIZARRE MENTAL LAPSES BUT I NEVER GOT USED TO BULLIES...
...AND A BOY BECAME A MANIAC HERE!
EVEN CARRION DRAWS CLOSER WITH EVERY TOUCHING WORD, LOVER...

A WEB-NET?!
FINALLY--!
EVERYBODY SECRETLY LOVES A SAD STORY, CARNAGE.
GRRRR
AND THIS ONE'S LEADING UP TO A REAL TRAGIC ENDING!
COUNT ON IT, CHUMPS...!

AND, EVEN THE EPILOGUE TO THE CARNAGE CARNIVAL'S SPREE OF CHAOS THROUGH THE HEART OF TIMES SQUARE EARLIER...
TZZZT
TZZZT
YEOWW!
ZZTTZ
... LEAVES LIVES HANGING PRECARIOUSLY IN THE BALANCE.
COMPUTER CHECK IDENTIFIED THIS POOR GUY AS A LIVING, BREATHING CYBORG SUPER-HACKER CALLED DEATHLOK...
...BUT IT LOOKS LIKE THE FILES MIGHT HAVE TO BE UP-DATED.
SPORADIC ELECTRICAL ARCS KEEP ME FROM DISENGAGING YOU, DEATHLOK...
TZZZT
...AND THE CONTINUOUS FEEDBACK LOOP BETWEEN YOUR ENERGY CIRCUITS AND THE NEON SIGN PREVENTS THE AUTHORITIES FROM EVEN TURNING OFF THE--
ZZTTZ
ZZZZT
-- JUICE...?!
SKRZZT

WHO--?!
HOW...?!
THIS FALLEN HERO'S PLIGHT APPEARED TO REQUIRE THE SKILLS OF *IRON FIST*, MY FRIEND...
...AND *MAN-MADE POWER* IS EVER INFERIOR TO THE *POWER* THAT *MAKES* A *MAN*!
THE INORDINATELY *GRAPHIC* MEDIA COVERAGE OF THE CURRENT CRISES--
POING
--DID SERVE TO ALERT ME THAT DEATHLOK OPERATES AS A FREELANCE PEACE-KEEPING AGENT...
WOW--!
AND WE CAN'T AFFORD TO *LOSE* ANY MORE OF THE GOOD GUYS.
uhnnn...

THE PEACEFUL TRANQUILITY OF BROOKLYN...
...IS A THING OF THE PAST.
EEARRGH!
OOPH!
SKRA KOOM
FIRST BLOOD'S OURS, CREW...!
AND AS SOON AS CLOAK TELEPORTS OUT HERE--
--WE GO STRAIGHT FOR THEIR JUGULAR!

THE ONE MEMBER OF SPIDER-MAN'S 'GREY TEAM' WHO COULD TRULY APPRECIATE THESE UNCHARACTERISTICALLY BLOODTHIRSTY INTENTIONS...
... SLEEPS THE SLEEP OF THE UNJUST IN HIS HIDDEN URBAN LAIR.
BUT THE SCIENCE-SPAWNED ATROCITY KNOWN AS MORBIUS, THE LIVING VAMPIRE--
--REQUIRES THE HEALING RENEWAL OF HIS AUTOMATED HYPERBARIC CHAMBER...
KLK
... UNTIL THE INEVITABLE DAWN OF DUSK.
MILES AWAY...
... HIS ABSENCE IS NOT FELT. YET.
SKRAAAANN
FSSS
FSSS
FSSS
THWIP
GROWWR
DIE! DIE! DIE! DIE! DIE! DIE! DIE!
SHREEEEEEEEEEE

THIS DANCE IS GETTING OLD REAL FAST, HARPY--!
NOT GOOD.. CARRION'S A FLYING PLAGUE AND HIS CORROSIVE ACIDS BURN THROUGH MY WEBBING AS FAST AS--
THWIP
THWIP
WORSE...
SPIDER-SENSE IS BLARING DANGER WARNINGS--
REAAAK
FROM ABOVE AND BELOW!
AWAY, DOPPELGANGER, BEFORE--
NO!
KWOOM
THE HEADLINE THAT SUGGESTED THIS EXTENDED FAMILY REUNION AT MY OLD HAUNT MADE FOR GREAT BAIT...

... AND NOW THE CLEVER SPIDER'S ALL *CAUGHT UP* IN HIS OWN TANGLED WEB!
S-STILL HAVE AN ACE *aak*... UP OUR SLEEVE...
SKRZZZZ
EEYIII--!
...NAMED *FIRESTAR!*
YOUR *MUTATED SUIT* IS OBVIOUSLY *VULNERABLE* TO MY MICROWAVE HEAT, CARNAGE, SO--
SO *YOU* WILL BE THE *NEXT* PRATTLING PEST TO *DIE*, WITCH!
TRUTH IS...
HE *LIED*. REED RICHARDS' STOLEN SONIC DISRUPTOR MAKES IT A *PAIR* OF ACES...
...*DOWN* AND *DIRTY!*
UPHH...!
EEE
SKREEE
AND SINCE WE CAN'T TRUST ANY OF OUR PARTNERS WITH THE VERY WEAPON THAT NEARLY DESTROYED OUR OWN SYMBIOTIC BOND ONCE BEFORE...
...WE HAVE TO DO THIS *OURSELVES.*

GOTTA LOVE IT...
EVEN THE HEROES ARE LYING, STEALING AND CHEATING NOW--
--AND ALL FOR NOTHING!
UH-OH...
SKREEEEE
HOW CAN YOU BE STANDING--?!
...YOUR BLOOD-STAINED TRAIL OF VICTIMS IS THE ONLY REASON WE NEED TO SEE THIS HORROR ALL THE WAY THROUGH--!
TO THE VERY LAST DROP, KASADY...!
SKRZZZZZZ
EVEN M-MY. M-MUTATE...C-CAN'T HANDLE... HER MICROWAVE HEAT...
SKREEEEE
SKRZZZZZ
WRONG, CARNAGE...

PREPARE TO *FOLLOW* YOUR WARPED WARLORD FOR THE LAST TIME, DEMOGOBLIN...
MORBIUS--?!
FSSS
...STRAIGHT INTO THE *UNHOLY FIRES* OF--
MY CLOAK'S *LOST VOID* WILL SUFFICE, 'GOBLIN...
SNK
...FOR AS LONG AS I CAN *STOMACH* YOU.
HOPE YOU CAUGHT A *GOOD NAP*, MORB--
THOOM
--BUT MY *CAT'S CABLE* JUST ABOUT *WRAPS* THINGS UP HERE!
NOT QUITE YET, PUSSYCAT...!
HSSSS...
STAY *BACK*!
GRRR
CARRION'S SNEAKING UP--!

WAY TOO LATE TO RESCUE THEIR FORMERLY FEARLESS LEADER!
WITHOUT THIS CLOWN'S COWARDLY SECOND-RATE SYMBIOTE-WANNABE--
--BIG, BAD KILLER KASADY IS JUST ANOTHER SCOOP OF FACE MEAT!
PLEASE...
NO...
WHAT--?!
THWIP
...THERE HAVE TO BE LIMITS, VENOM.
WE'VE REACHED OUR LIMIT WITH YOU, SPIDER-SAP, ONCE AND FOR--
NO LIMITS, CLETUS...
NO WEAKNESSES!
SLSH

SURE KNOW HOW TO *HURT* A GUY, SHRIEK...
...PROBABLY WHAT I LOVE *MOST* ABOUT YOU.
AND NOW THAT THE ALIEN SYMBIOTE HAS *PERMANENTLY* ALTERED MY VERY *BLOODSTREAM*--
--CARNAGE *NEVER DIES!*
DO WE HAVE A PLAN B...?
"MAXIMUM CARNAGE" CONTINUES IN SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #202...! YOU WON'T BELIEVE YOUR EYES!

MARVEL® COMICS
MAXIMUM CARNAGE™
PART 9 OF 14
SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN™
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TM
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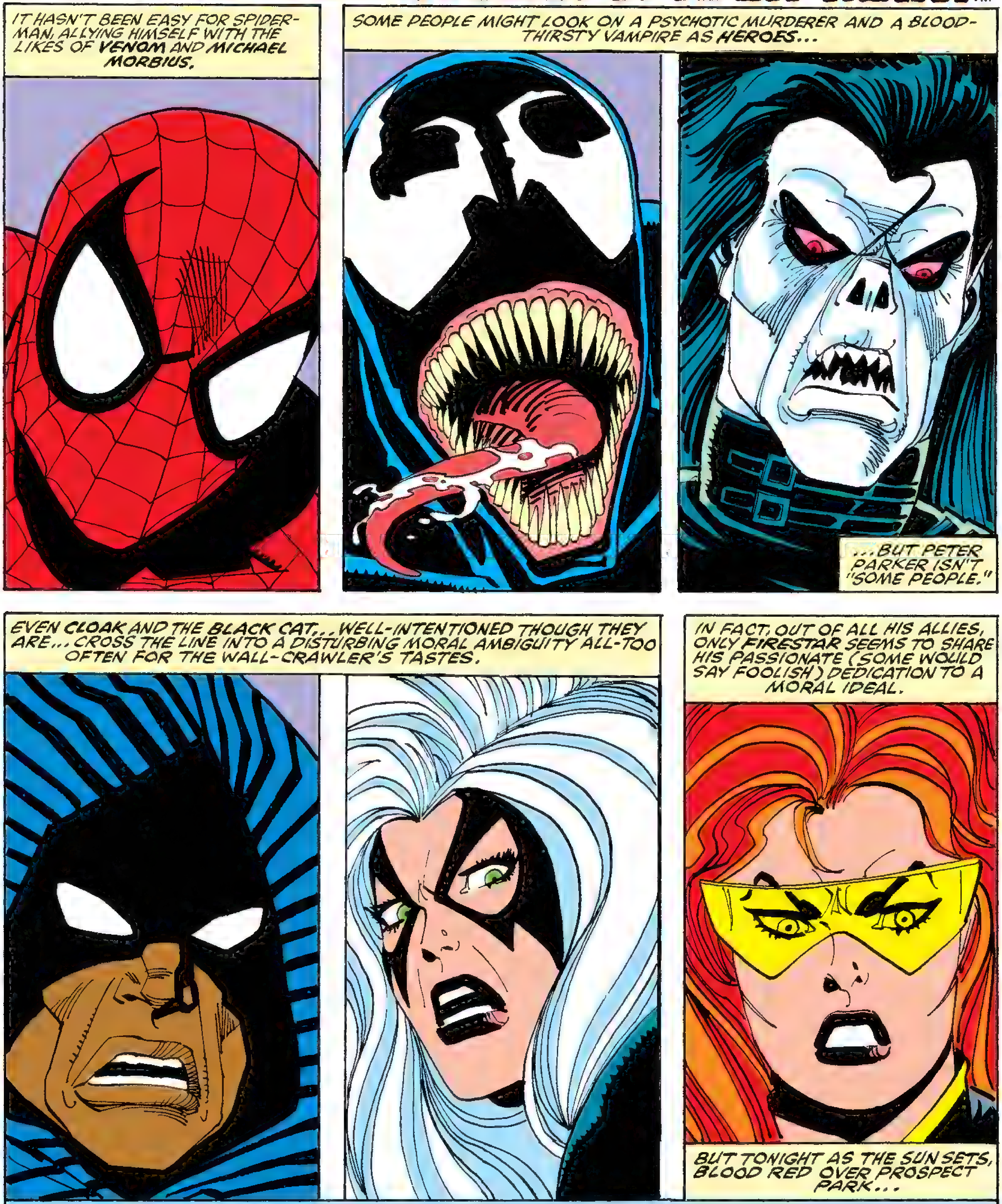
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY

BITTEN BY A RADIOACTIVE SPIDER, STUDENT **PETER PARKER** GAINED THE PROPORTIONATE STRENGTH AND AGILITY OF AN ARACHNID! ARMED WITH HIS WONDROUS WEB-SHOOTERS, THE RELUCTANT SUPER HERO STRUGGLES WITH SINISTER SUPER-VILLAINS, MAKING ENDS MEET, AND MAINTAINING SOME SEMBLANCE OF A NORMAL LIFE!

Stan Lee PRESENTS:

THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN!™


IT HASN'T BEEN EASY FOR SPIDER-MAN, ALLYING HIMSELF WITH THE LIKES OF **VENOM** AND **MICHAEL MORBIUS**.
SOME PEOPLE MIGHT LOOK ON A PSYCHOTIC MURDERER AND A BLOOD-THIRSTY VAMPIRE AS **HEROES**...
...BUT PETER PARKER ISN'T "SOME PEOPLE."
EVEN **CLOAK** AND THE **BLACK CAT**... WELL-INTENTIONED THOUGH THEY ARE... CROSS THE LINE INTO A DISTURBING MORAL AMBIGUITY ALL-TOO OFTEN FOR THE WALL-CRAWLER'S TASTES.
IN FACT, OUT OF ALL HIS ALLIES, ONLY **FIRESTAR** SEEMS TO SHARE HIS PASSIONATE (SOME WOULD SAY FOOLISH) DEDICATION TO A MORAL IDEAL.
BUT TONIGHT AS THE SUN SETS, BLOOD RED OVER PROSPECT PARK...

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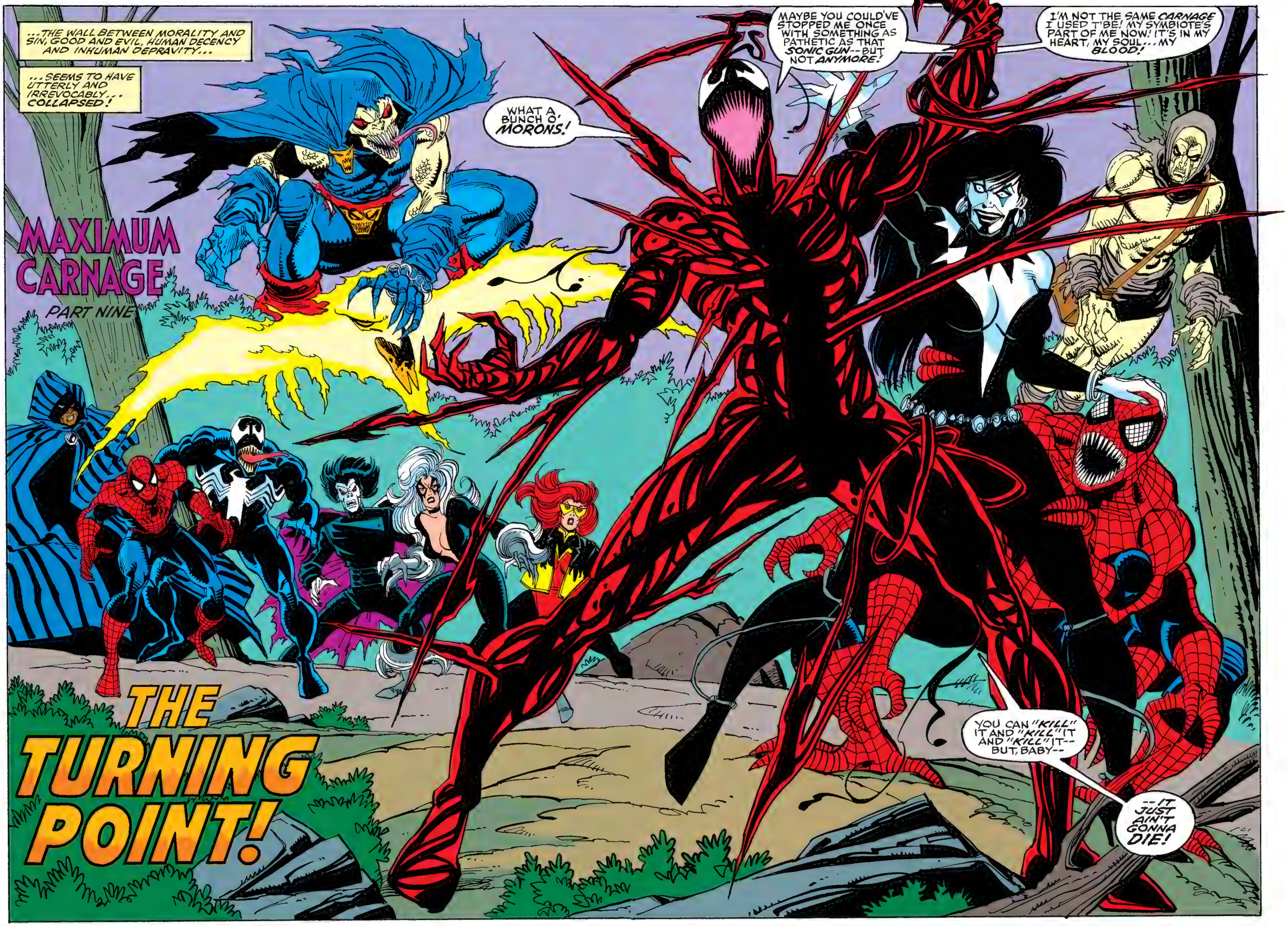
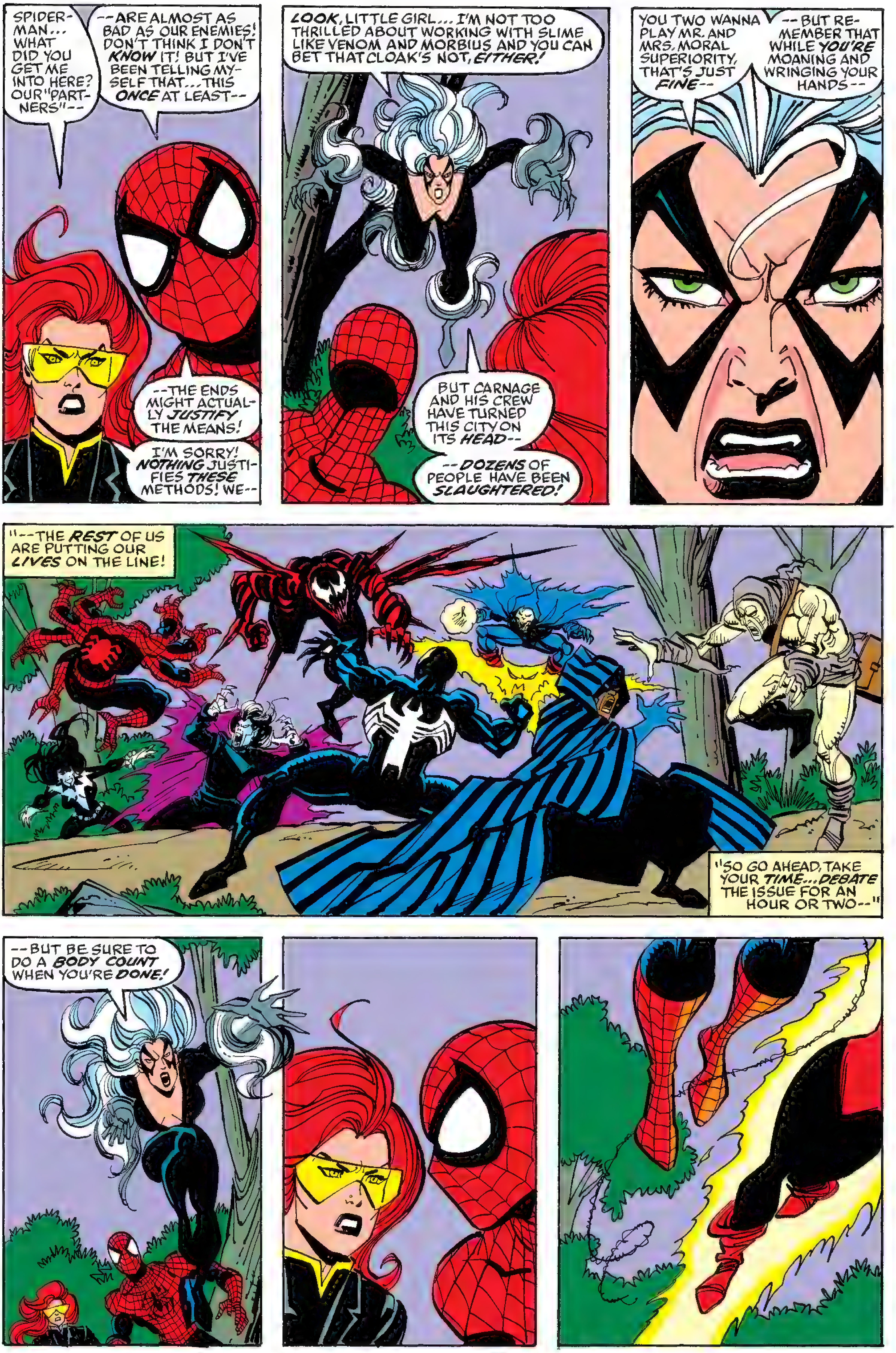
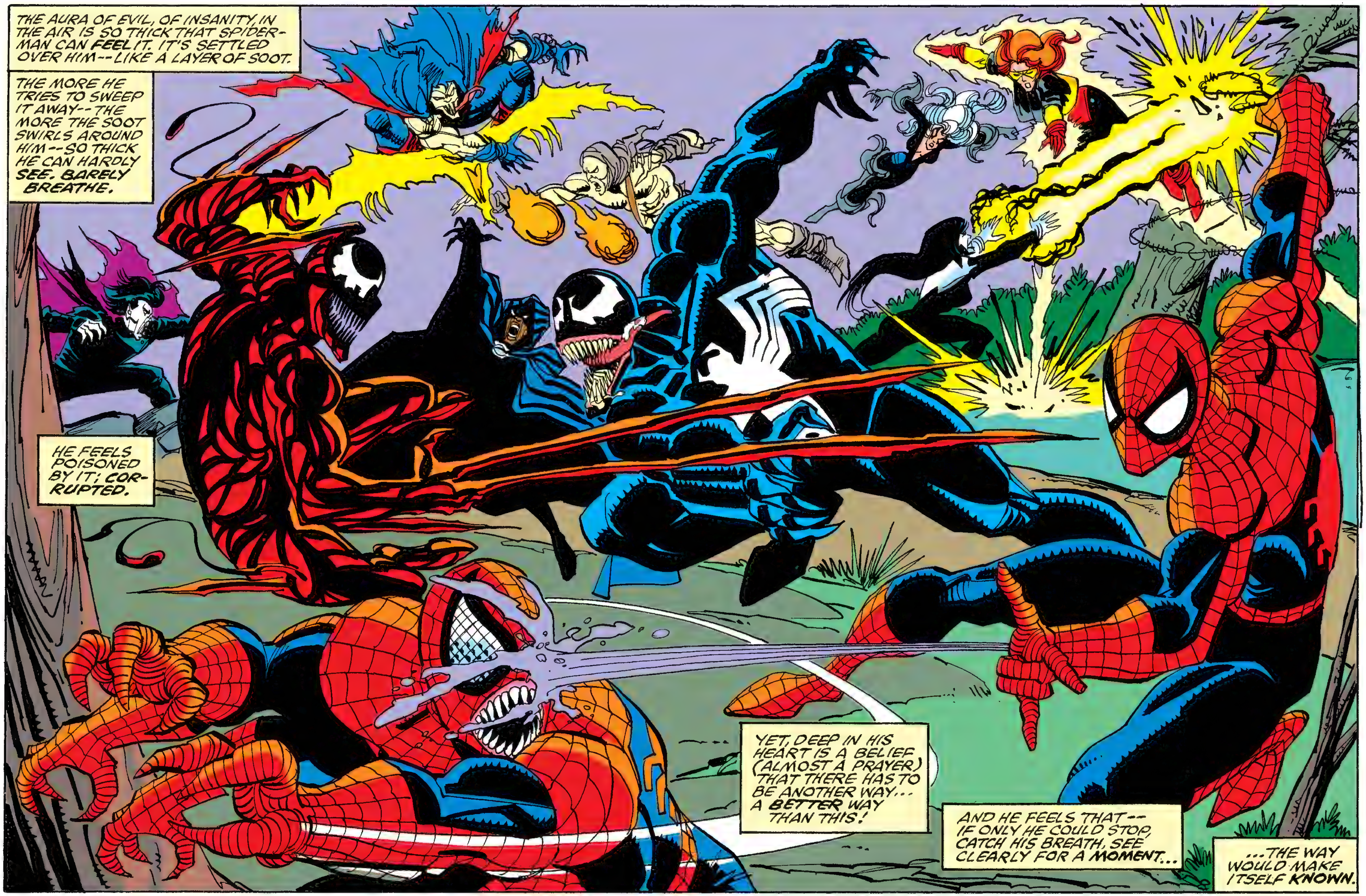
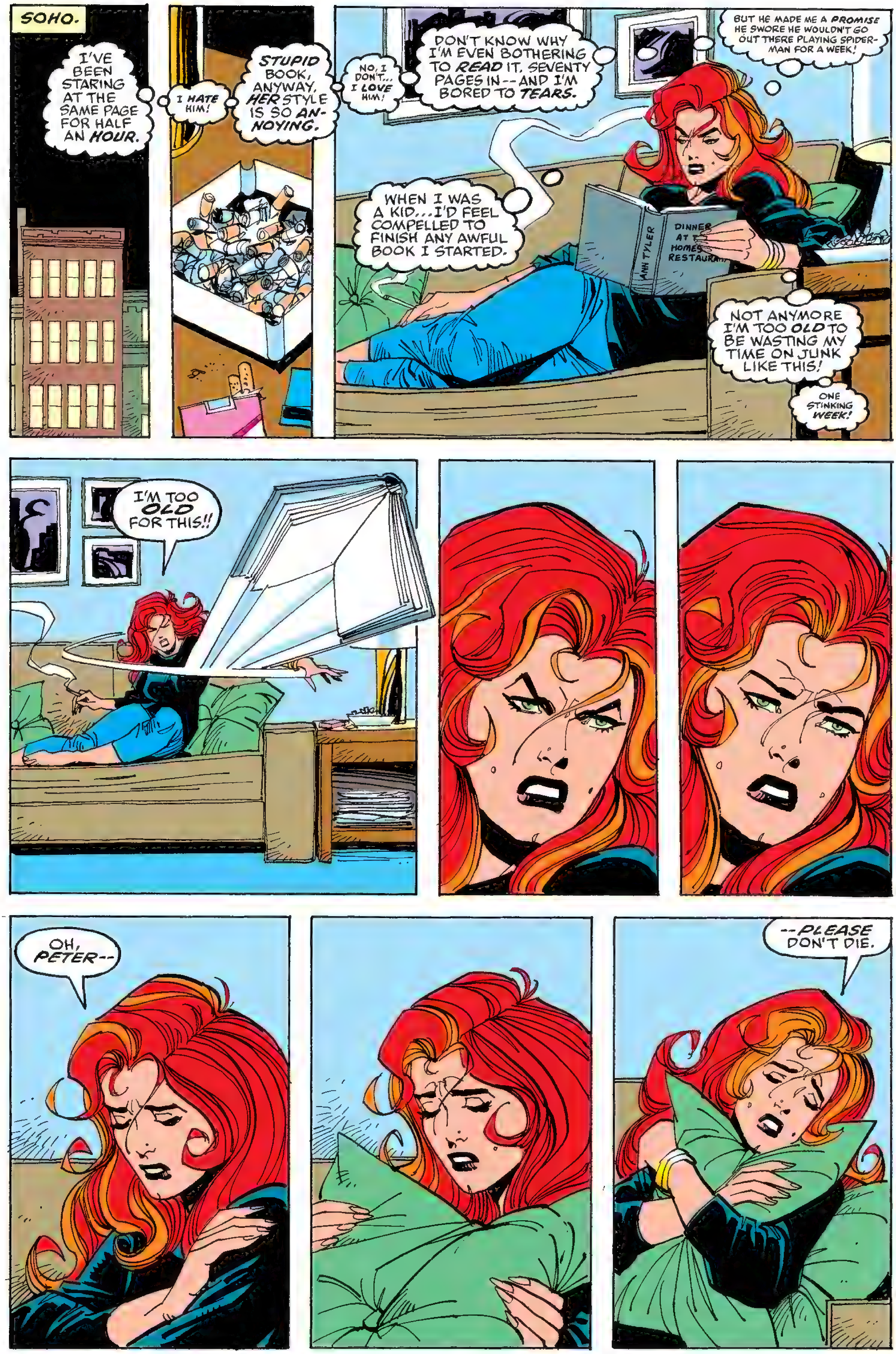
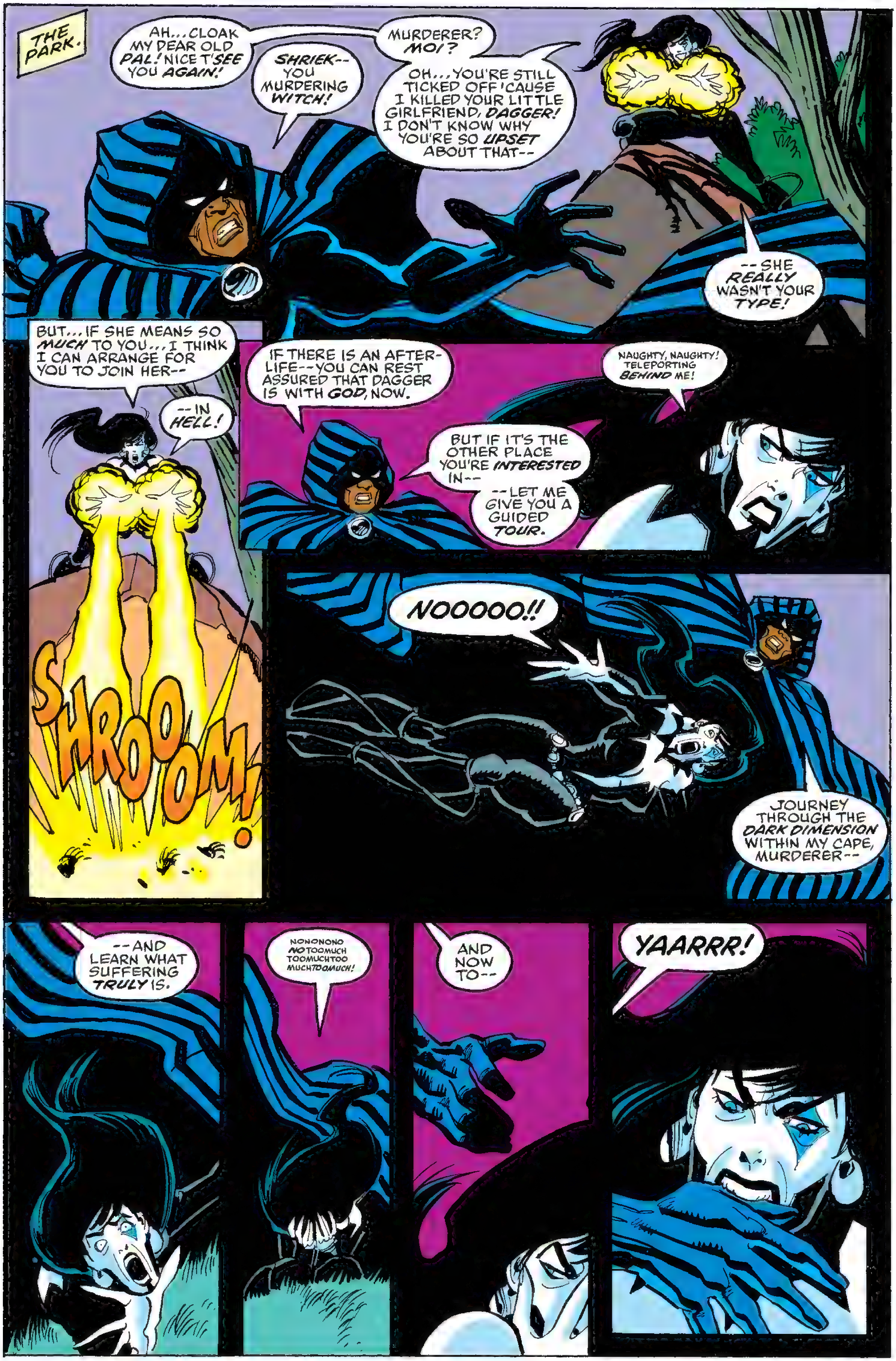

...THE WALL BETWEEN MORALITY AND SIN, GOOD AND EVIL, HUMAN DECENCY AND INHUMAN DEPRAVITY...
...SEEMS TO HAVE UTTERLY AND IRREVOCABLY... COLLAPSED!
MAXIMUM CARNAGE
PART NINE
WHAT A BUNCH O' MORONS!
MAYBE YOU COULD'VE STOPPED ME ONCE WITH SOMETHING AS PATHETIC AS THAT SONIC GUN--BUT NOT ANYMORE!
I'M NOT THE SAME CARNAGE I USED T'BE! MY SYMBIOTE'S PART OF ME NOW! IT'S IN MY HEART, MY SOUL... MY BLOOD!
THE TURNING POINT!
YOU CAN "KILL" IT AND "KILL" IT AND "KILL" IT-- BUT, BABY--
--IT JUST AIN'T GONNA DIE!

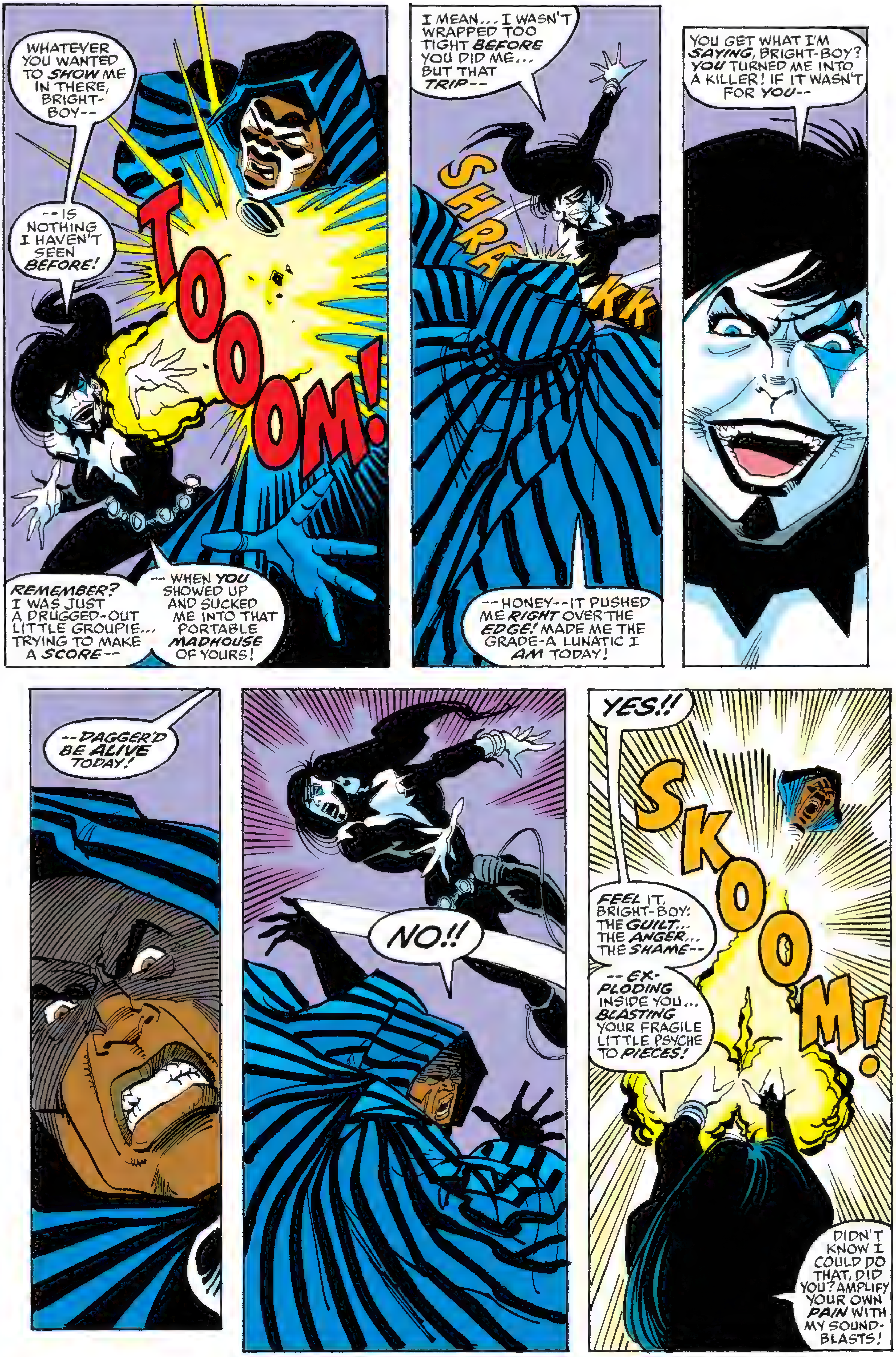
EVIL IS *FOREVER*--AND THEY DON'T GET MORE EVIL THAN *ME!* AND WHEN YOU ADD MY "WIFE" AND "KIDS" TO THE MIX--
--*SHRIEK, DEMOGOBLIN, CARRION* AND THE *DOPPELGANGER*--
--WELL, LET'S FACE *FACTS*--THIS CITY JUST HASN'T GOT A *CHANCE!* EVERY LIVING THING IN NEW YORK IS GOING DOWN IN A FLAMING BALL OF *CHAOS*--
--*ESPECIALLY* THE SIX OF *YOU!*
VENOM--HELP ME OUT HERE! I DON'T KNOW HOW LONG THIS WEB-WALL CAN *PROTECT* US FROM...
SHLIP
SHLIP
SHLIP
PROTECT?!
RR
YOU WANNA *HIDE* LIKE A SCARED LITTLE BUNNY-RABBIT, GO ON *AHEAD!*
RIPP
US...WE'RE MOVIN' IN FOR THE *KILL!*
NO! *WAIT!* WE CAN'T JUST BLUNDER IN WITHOUT A *PLAN!*
CARNAGE IS FAR MORE DANGEROUS THAN WE EVER *SUSPECTED!*
RIGHT--AND *THAT'S* WHY I'M GONNA RIP HIS *HEART* OUT!
AND I'LL DO THE SAME TO *ANYBODY* WHO GETS IN MY *WAY!*

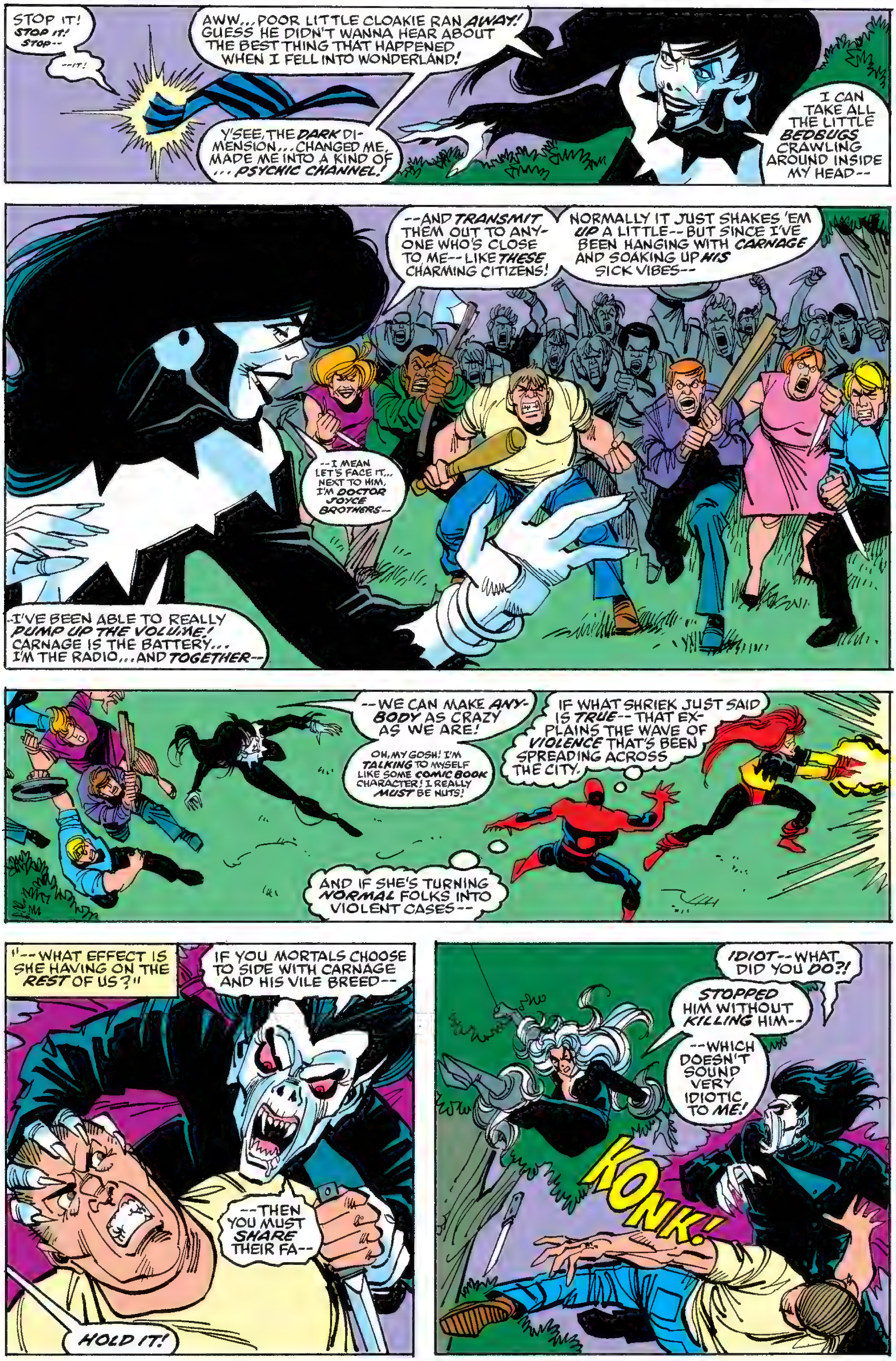

SPIDER-MAN... WHAT DID YOU GET ME INTO HERE? OUR "PARTNERS"--
--ARE ALMOST AS BAD AS OUR ENEMIES! DON'T THINK I DON'T *KNOW* IT! BUT I'VE BEEN TELLING MYSELF THAT... THIS *ONCE* AT LEAST--
--THE ENDS MIGHT ACTUALLY *JUSTIFY* THE MEANS!
I'M SORRY! *NOTHING* JUSTIFIES *THESE* METHODS! WE--
LOOK, LITTLE GIRL... I'M NOT TOO THRILLED ABOUT WORKING WITH SLIME LIKE VENOM AND MORBIUS AND YOU CAN BET THAT CLOAK'S NOT, *EITHER!*
BUT CARNAGE AND HIS CREW HAVE TURNED THIS CITY ON ITS *HEAD*--
--*DOZENS* OF PEOPLE HAVE BEEN *SLAUGHTERED!*
YOU TWO WANNA PLAY MR. AND MRS. MORAL SUPERIORITY, THAT'S JUST *FINE*--
--BUT REMEMBER THAT WHILE *YOU'RE* MOANING AND WRINGING YOUR HANDS--
"--THE *REST* OF US ARE PUTTING OUR *LIVES* ON THE LINE!
"SO GO AHEAD, TAKE YOUR *TIME*... *DEBATE* THE ISSUE FOR AN HOUR OR TWO--"
--BUT BE SURE TO DO A *BODY COUNT* WHEN YOU'RE *DONE!*

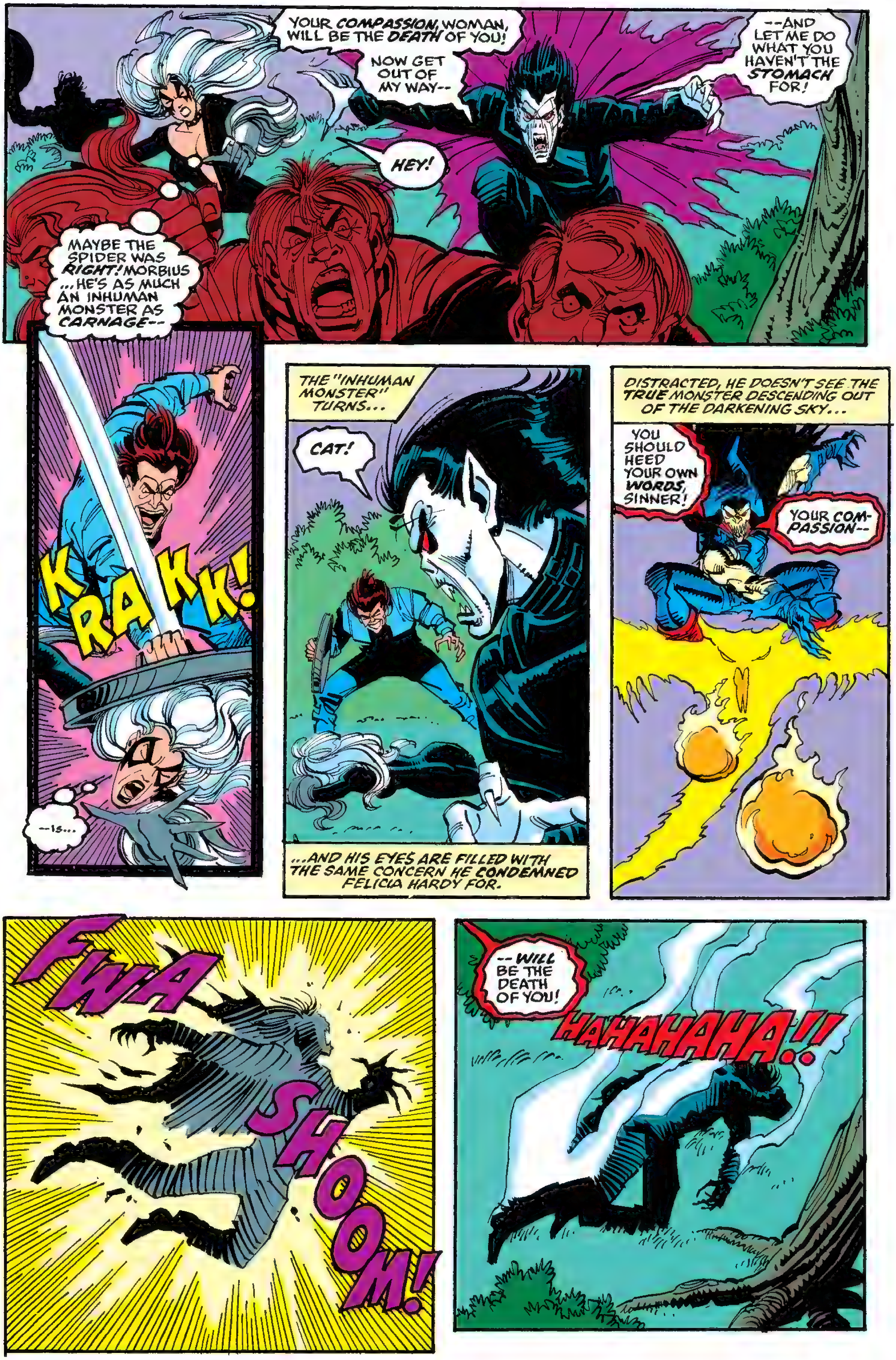

THE AURA OF EVIL, OF INSANITY, IN THE AIR IS SO THICK THAT SPIDER-MAN CAN **FEEL** IT. IT'S SETTLED OVER HIM--LIKE A LAYER OF SOOT.
THE MORE HE TRIES TO SWEEP IT AWAY--THE MORE THE SOOT SWIRLS AROUND HIM--SO THICK HE CAN HARDLY **SEE. BARELY BREATHE.**
HE FEELS POISONED BY IT; **CORRUPTED.**
YET, DEEP IN HIS HEART IS A BELIEF (ALMOST A PRAYER) THAT THERE HAS TO BE ANOTHER WAY... A **BETTER** WAY THAN THIS!
AND HE FEELS THAT-- IF ONLY HE COULD STOP, CATCH HIS BREATH, SEE CLEARLY FOR A **MOMENT**...
...THE WAY WOULD MAKE ITSELF **KNOWN.**


SOHO.
I'VE BEEN STARING AT THE SAME PAGE FOR HALF AN *HOUR*.
I *HATE* HIM!
STUPID BOOK, ANYWAY. *HER* STYLE IS SO *ANNOYING*.
NO, I DON'T... I *LOVE* HIM!
DON'T KNOW WHY I'M EVEN BOTHERING TO *READ* IT. SEVENTY PAGES IN -- AND I'M BORED TO *TEARS*.
BUT HE MADE ME A *PROMISE* HE SWORE HE WOULDN'T GO OUT THERE PLAYING SPIDER-MAN FOR A WEEK!
WHEN I WAS A KID... I'D FEEL COMPELLED TO FINISH ANY AWFUL BOOK I STARTED.
ANN TYLER
DINNER AT T HOMES RESTAURA
NOT ANYMORE. I'M TOO *OLD* TO BE WASTING MY TIME ON JUNK LIKE THIS!
ONE STINKING *WEEK!*
I'M TOO *OLD* FOR THIS!!
OH, *PETER*--
--*PLEASE* DON'T DIE.

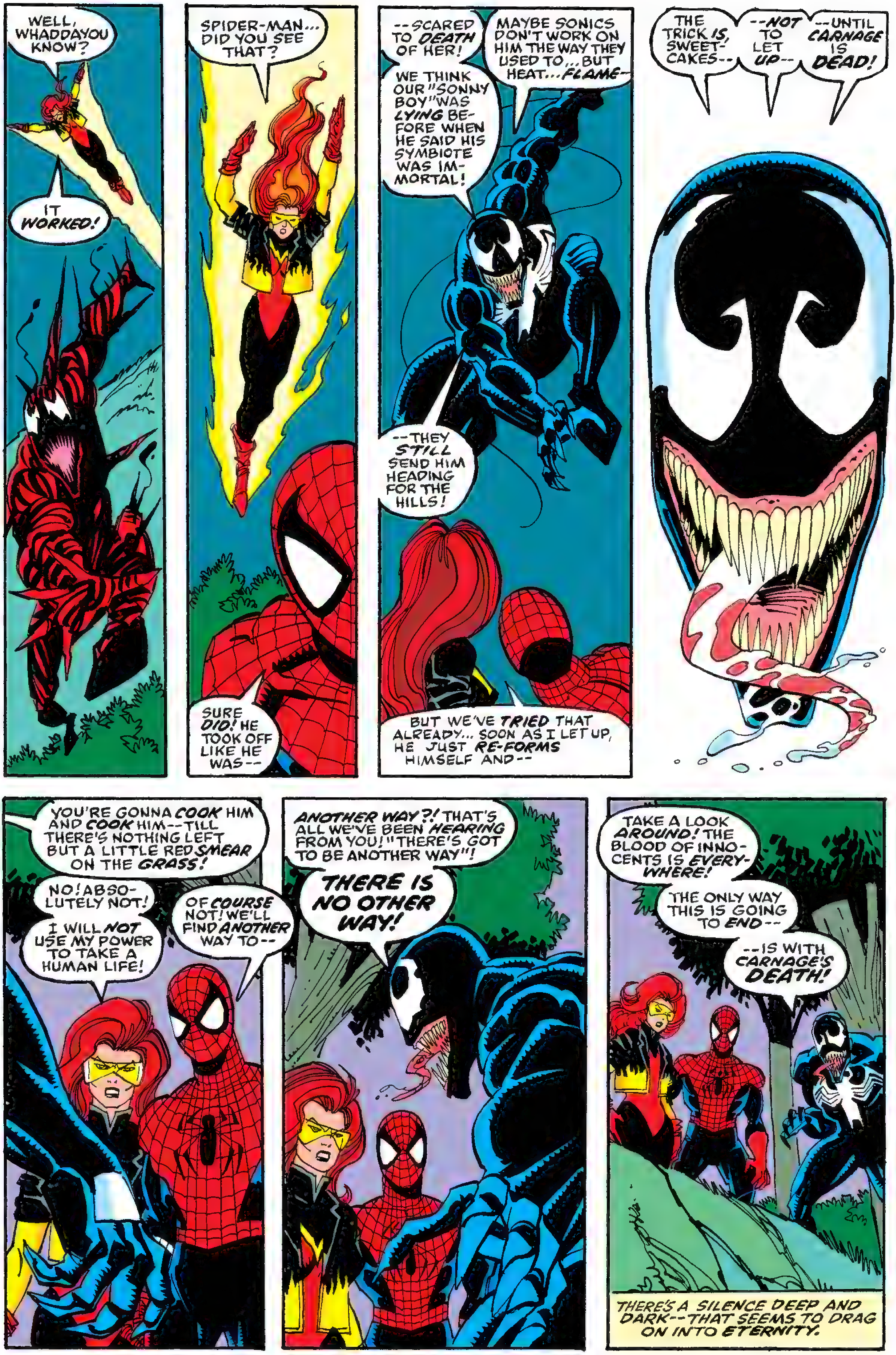

THE PARK.
AH...CLOAK MY DEAR OLD PAL! NICE T'SEE YOU AGAIN!
SHRIEK-- YOU MURDERING WITCH!
MURDERER? MOI?
OH...YOU'RE STILL TICKED OFF 'CAUSE I KILLED YOUR LITTLE GIRLFRIEND, DAGGER! I DON'T KNOW WHY YOU'RE SO UPSET ABOUT THAT--
--SHE REALLY WASN'T YOUR TYPE!
BUT...IF SHE MEANS SO MUCH TO YOU...I THINK I CAN ARRANGE FOR YOU TO JOIN HER--
--IN HELL!
SHROOOM!
IF THERE IS AN AFTER-LIFE--YOU CAN REST ASSURED THAT DAGGER IS WITH GOD, NOW.
NAUGHTY, NAUGHTY! TELEPORTING BEHIND ME!
BUT IF IT'S THE OTHER PLACE YOU'RE INTERESTED IN--
--LET ME GIVE YOU A GUIDED TOUR.
NOOOOO!!
JOURNEY THROUGH THE DARK DIMENSION WITHIN MY CAPE, MURDERER--
--AND LEARN WHAT SUFFERING TRULY IS.
NONONONO NOTOOMUCH TOOMUCHTOO MUCHTOOMUCH!
AND NOW TO--
YAARRR!

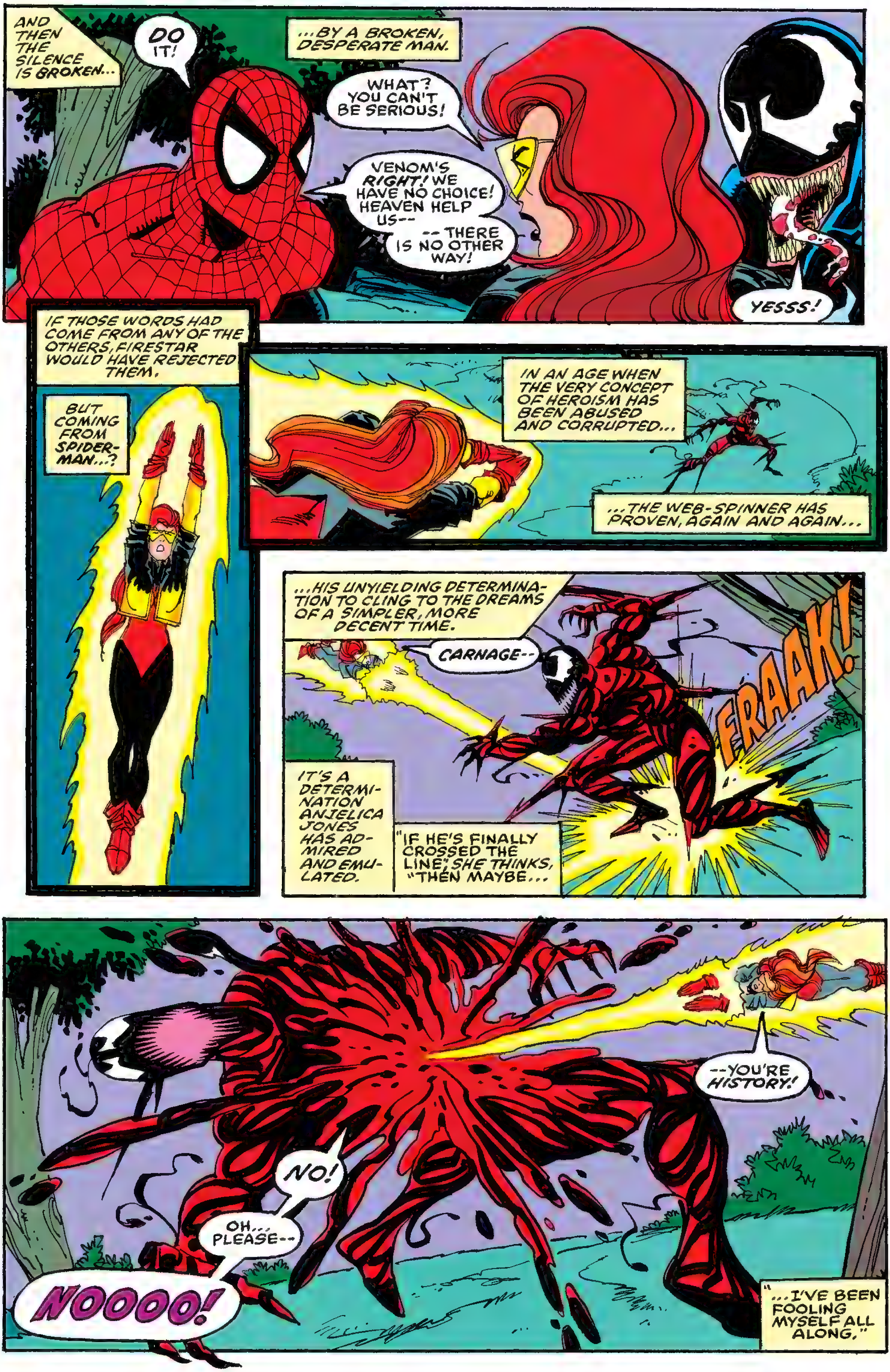

WHATEVER YOU WANTED TO *SHOW* ME IN THERE, BRIGHT-BOY--
--IS NOTHING I HAVEN'T SEEN *BEFORE!*
TOOOOM!
REMEMBER? I WAS JUST A DRUGGED-OUT LITTLE GROUPIE... TRYING TO MAKE A *SCORE*--
--WHEN *YOU* SHOWED UP AND SUCKED ME INTO THAT PORTABLE *MADHOUSE* OF YOURS!
I MEAN... I WASN'T WRAPPED TOO TIGHT *BEFORE* YOU DID ME... BUT THAT *TRIP*--
SHRAKK
--HONEY--IT PUSHED ME *RIGHT* OVER THE *EDGE!* MADE ME THE GRADE-A LUNATIC I *AM* TODAY!
YOU GET WHAT I'M *SAYING*, BRIGHT-BOY? *YOU* TURNED ME INTO A KILLER! IF IT WASN'T FOR *YOU*--
--*DAGGER'D BE ALIVE* TODAY!
NO!!
YES!!
SKOOOM!
FEEL IT, BRIGHT-BOY: THE *GUILT*... THE *ANGER*... THE *SHAME*--
--*EXPLODING* INSIDE YOU... *BLASTING* YOUR FRAGILE LITTLE PSYCHE TO *PIECES!*
DIDN'T KNOW I COULD DO THAT, DID YOU? AMPLIFY YOUR OWN *PAIN* WITH MY SOUND-BLASTS!

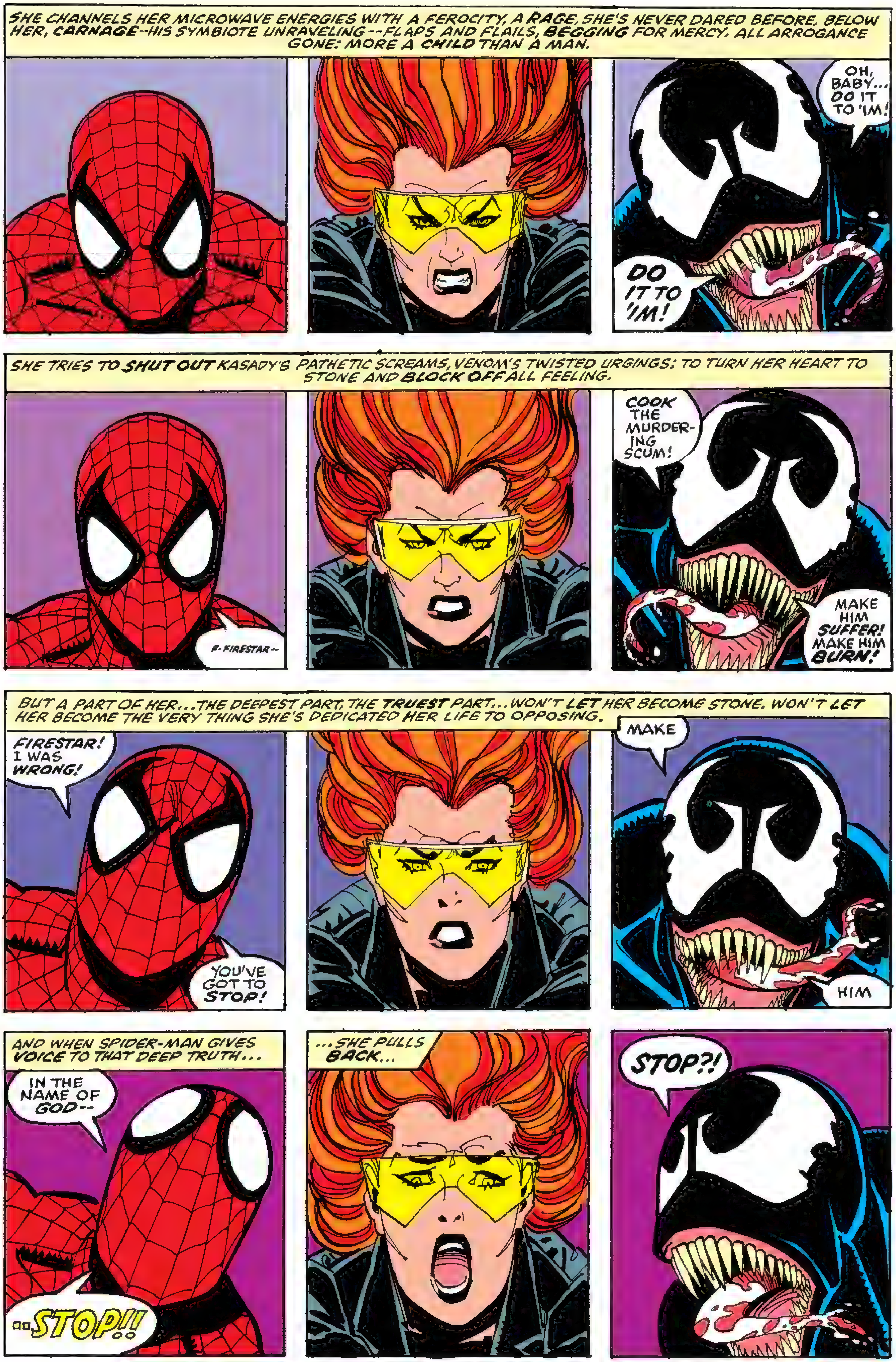

STOP IT! STOP IT! STOP--
--IT!
AWW... POOR LITTLE CLOAKIE RAN AWAY! GUESS HE DIDN'T WANNA HEAR ABOUT THE BEST THING THAT HAPPENED WHEN I FELL INTO WONDERLAND!
Y'SEE, THE DARK DIMENSION... CHANGED ME. MADE ME INTO A KIND OF ... PSYCHIC CHANNEL!
I CAN TAKE ALL THE LITTLE BEDBUGS CRAWLING AROUND INSIDE MY HEAD--
--AND TRANSMIT THEM OUT TO ANYONE WHO'S CLOSE TO ME--LIKE THESE CHARMING CITIZENS!
NORMALLY IT JUST SHAKES 'EM UP A LITTLE--BUT SINCE I'VE BEEN HANGING WITH CARNAGE AND SOAKING UP HIS SICK VIBES--
--I MEAN LET'S FACE IT... NEXT TO HIM, I'M DOCTOR JOYCE BROTHERS--
I'VE BEEN ABLE TO REALLY PUMP UP THE VOLUME! CARNAGE IS THE BATTERY... I'M THE RADIO... AND TOGETHER--
--WE CAN MAKE ANYBODY AS CRAZY AS WE ARE!
OH, MY GOSH! I'M TALKING TO MYSELF LIKE SOME COMIC BOOK CHARACTER! I REALLY MUST BE NUTS!
IF WHAT SHRIEK JUST SAID IS TRUE--THAT EXPLAINS THE WAVE OF VIOLENCE THAT'S BEEN SPREADING ACROSS THE CITY.
AND IF SHE'S TURNING NORMAL FOLKS INTO VIOLENT CASES--
"--WHAT EFFECT IS SHE HAVING ON THE REST OF US?"
IF YOU MORTALS CHOOSE TO SIDE WITH CARNAGE AND HIS VILE BREED--
--THEN YOU MUST SHARE THEIR FA--
HOLD IT!
IDIOT--WHAT DID YOU DO?!
STOPPED HIM WITHOUT KILLING HIM--
--WHICH DOESN'T SOUND VERY IDIOTIC TO ME!
KONK!

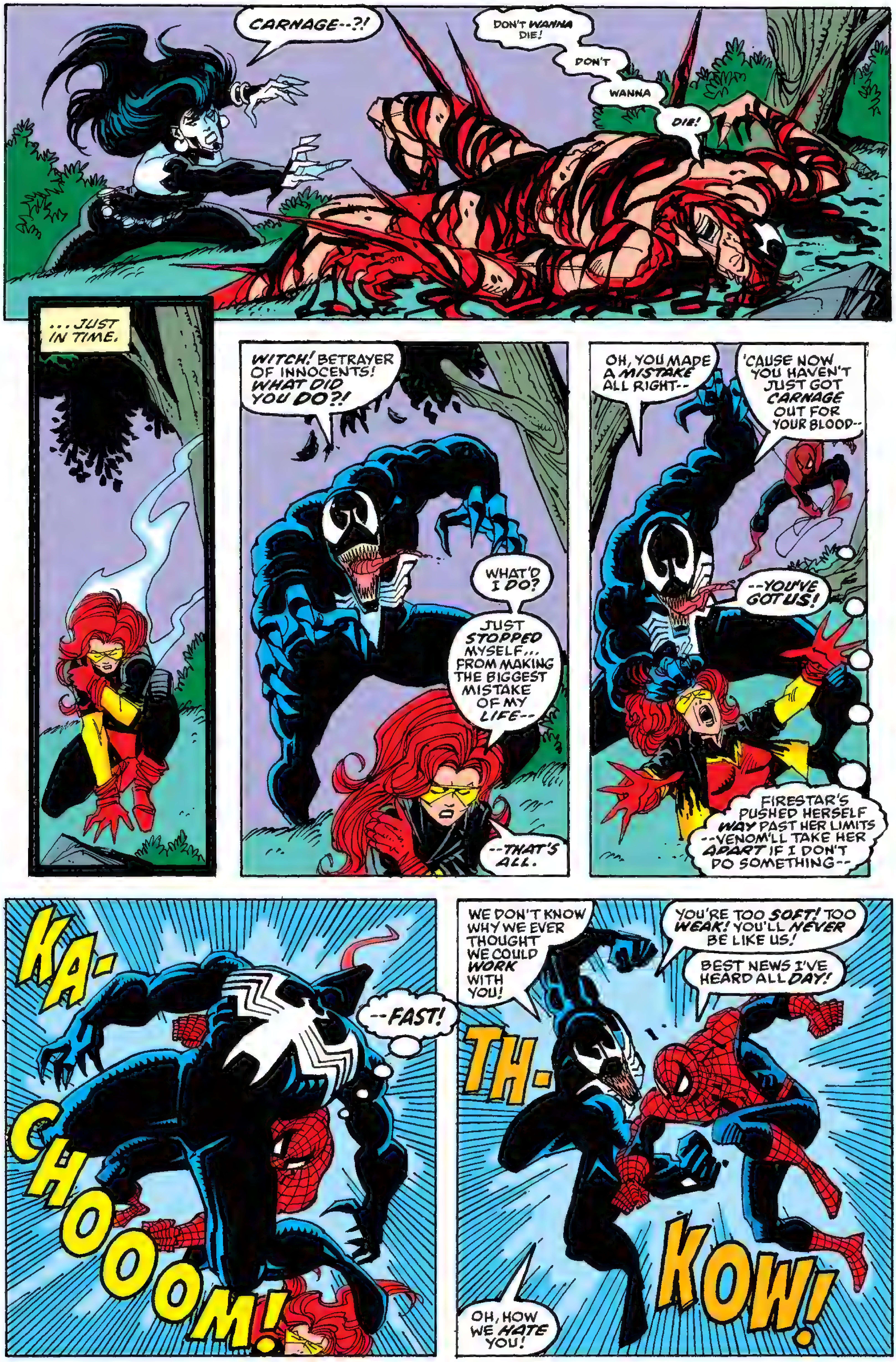

YOUR COMPASSION, WOMAN, WILL BE THE DEATH OF YOU!
NOW GET OUT OF MY WAY--
--AND LET ME DO WHAT YOU HAVEN'T THE STOMACH FOR!
HEY!
MAYBE THE SPIDER WAS RIGHT! MORBIUS ...HE'S AS MUCH AN INHUMAN MONSTER AS CARNAGE--
KRAKK!
--IS...
THE "INHUMAN MONSTER" TURNS...
CAT!
...AND HIS EYES ARE FILLED WITH THE SAME CONCERN HE CONDEMNED FELICIA HARDY FOR.
DISTRACTED, HE DOESN'T SEE THE TRUE MONSTER DESCENDING OUT OF THE DARKENING SKY...
YOU SHOULD HEED YOUR OWN WORDS, SINNER!
YOUR COMPASSION--
FWASHOOM!
--WILL BE THE DEATH OF YOU!
HAHAHAHA!!

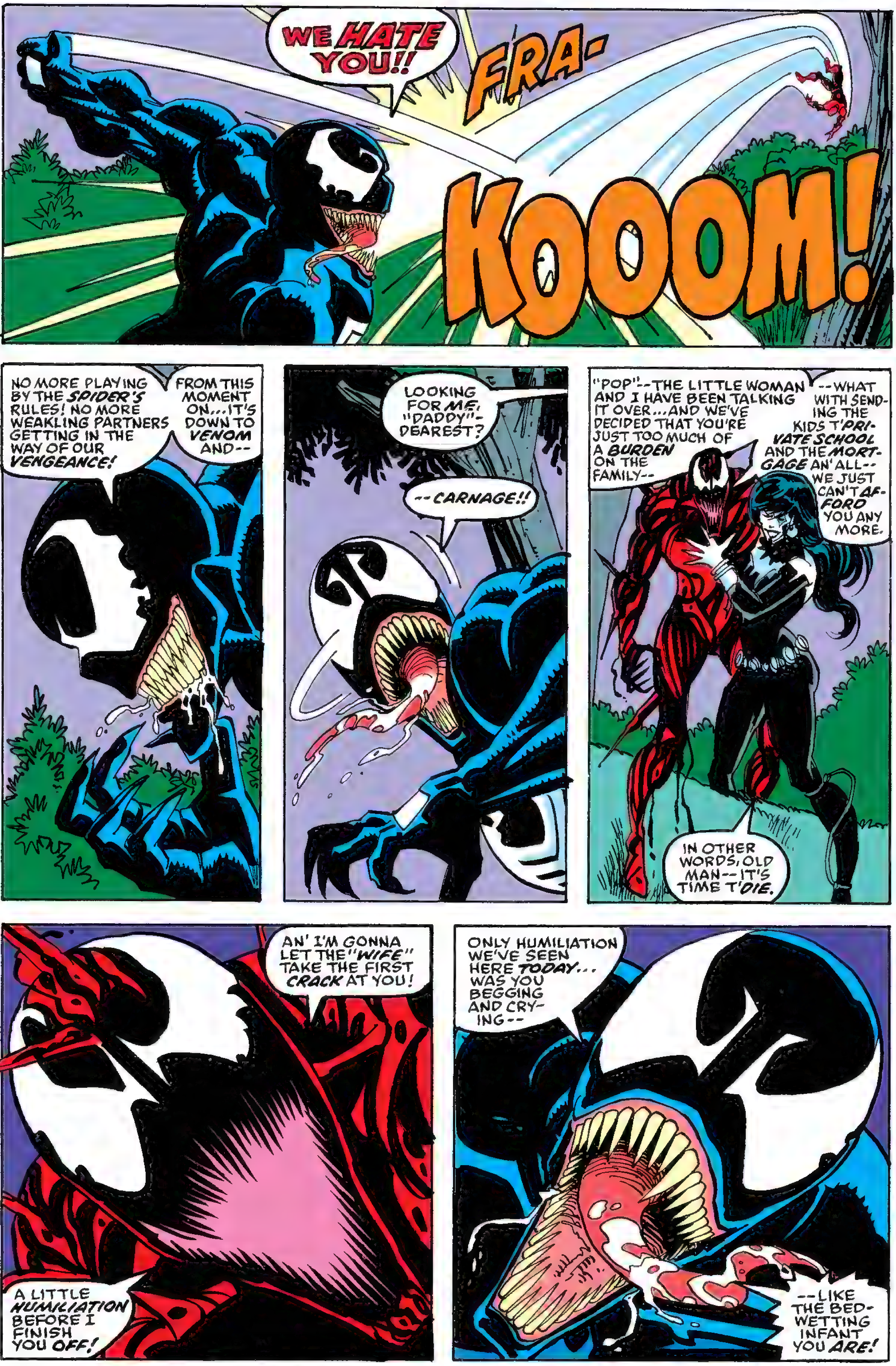
Crazy little bedbugs all in a *row!* Think I'll cut your *livers* out Do it nice'n' *slow!*
Y'KNOW, CARNAGE, I DIDN'T THINK THIS NIGHTMARE COULD GET ANY WORSE--
--BUT NOW THAT I'VE HEARD YOUR *POETRY*--
TH-KOOM!
--I'M *REALLY* SICK TO MY STOMACH!
WHAT? YOU DON'T RECOGNIZE MY *GENIUS?* MY SUBLIME *ARTISTRY?*
MAYBE YOU'LL APPRECIATE ME MORE AFTER I CARVE A BEAUTIFUL SCULPTURE--
--OUT OF YOUR TORN AND BLOODY--
--*FLESH...?!*
GET AWAY FROM HIM!!
FWA KOOM!

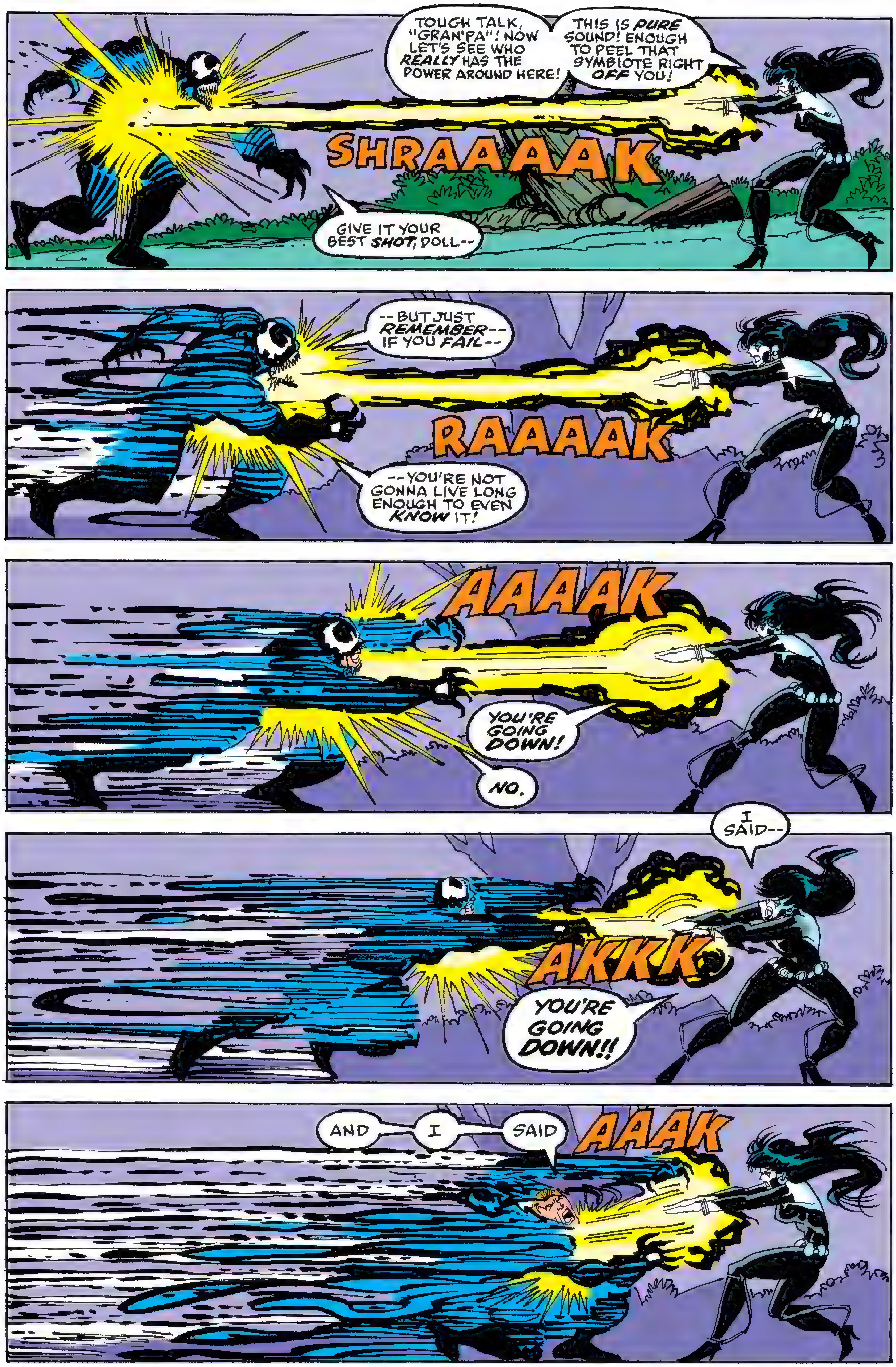

WELL, WHADDAYOU KNOW?
IT *WORKED!*
SPIDER-MAN... DID YOU SEE THAT?
SURE *DID!* HE TOOK OFF LIKE HE WAS--
--SCARED TO *DEATH* OF HER!
WE THINK OUR "SONNY BOY" WAS *LYING* BEFORE WHEN HE SAID HIS SYMBIOTE WAS IMMORTAL!
MAYBE SONICS DON'T WORK ON HIM THE WAY THEY USED TO... BUT HEAT... *FLAME*--
--THEY *STILL* SEND HIM HEADING FOR THE HILLS!
BUT WE'VE *TRIED* THAT ALREADY... SOON AS I LET UP, HE JUST *RE-FORMS* HIMSELF AND--
THE TRICK *IS,* SWEET-CAKES--
--*NOT* TO LET *UP*--
--UNTIL *CARNAGE* IS *DEAD!*
YOU'RE GONNA *COOK* HIM AND *COOK* HIM--TILL THERE'S NOTHING LEFT BUT A LITTLE RED *SMEAR* ON THE *GRASS!*
NO! ABSOLUTELY NOT!
I WILL *NOT* USE MY POWER TO TAKE A HUMAN LIFE!
OF *COURSE* NOT! WE'LL FIND *ANOTHER* WAY TO--
ANOTHER WAY?! THAT'S ALL WE'VE BEEN *HEARING* FROM YOU! "THERE'S GOT TO BE ANOTHER WAY"!
THERE IS NO OTHER WAY!
TAKE A LOOK *AROUND!* THE BLOOD OF INNOCENTS IS *EVERYWHERE!*
THE ONLY WAY THIS IS GOING TO *END*--
--IS WITH *CARNAGE'S DEATH!*
THERE'S A SILENCE DEEP AND DARK--THAT SEEMS TO DRAG ON INTO ETERNITY.

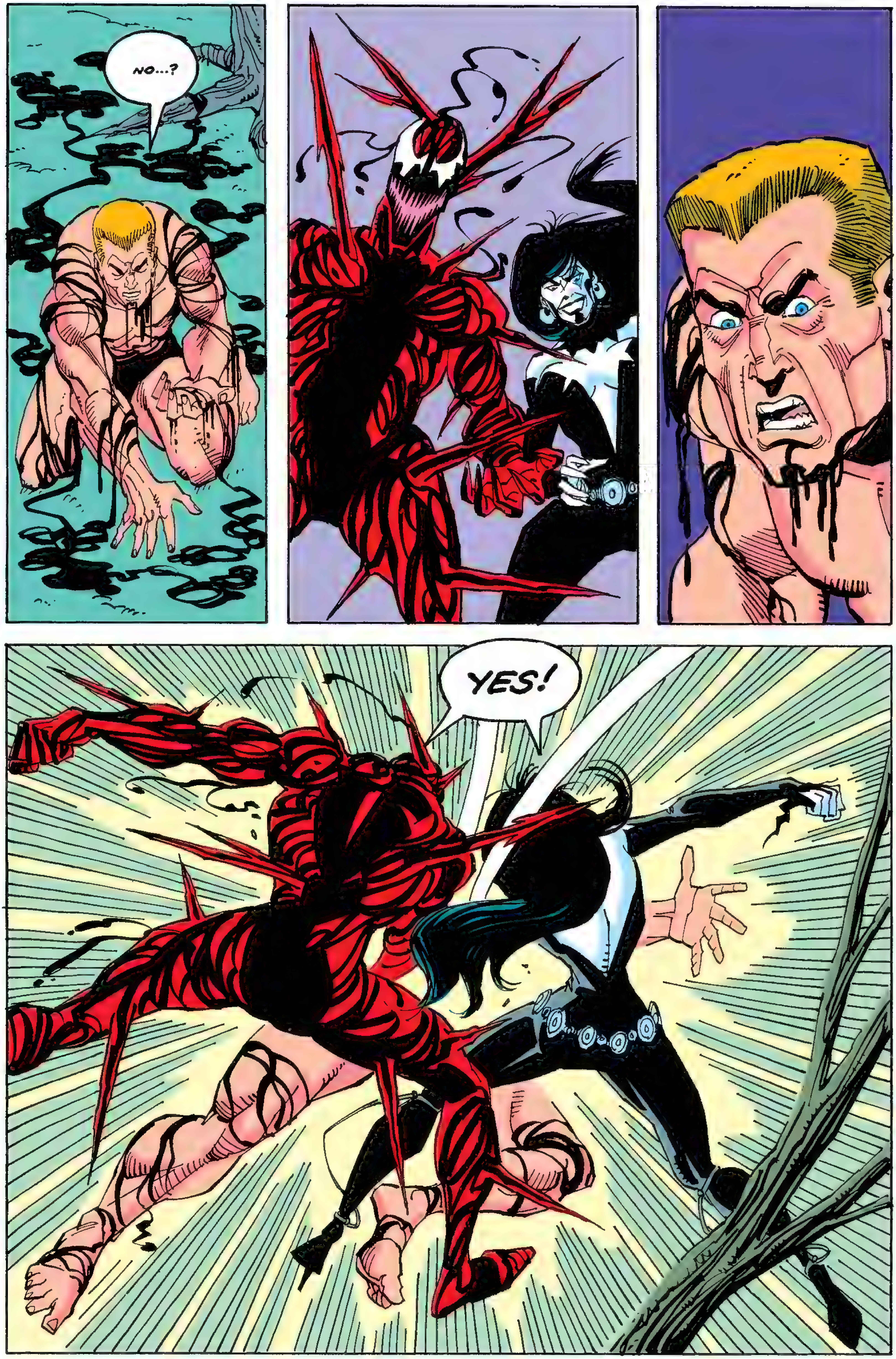

AND THEN THE SILENCE IS BROKEN...
DO IT!
...BY A BROKEN, DESPERATE MAN.
WHAT? YOU CAN'T BE SERIOUS!
VENOM'S RIGHT! WE HAVE NO CHOICE! HEAVEN HELP US--
-- THERE IS NO OTHER WAY!
YESSS!
IF THOSE WORDS HAD COME FROM ANY OF THE OTHERS, FIRESTAR WOULD HAVE REJECTED THEM.
BUT COMING FROM SPIDER-MAN...?
IN AN AGE WHEN THE VERY CONCEPT OF HEROISM HAS BEEN ABUSED AND CORRUPTED...
...THE WEB-SPINNER HAS PROVEN, AGAIN AND AGAIN...
...HIS UNYIELDING DETERMINATION TO CLING TO THE DREAMS OF A SIMPLER, MORE DECENT TIME.
CARNAGE--
FRAAK!
IT'S A DETERMINATION ANJELICA JONES HAS ADMIRED AND EMULATED.
"IF HE'S FINALLY CROSSED THE LINE," SHE THINKS, "THEN MAYBE...
--YOU'RE HISTORY!
NO!
OH... PLEASE--
NOOOO!
"...I'VE BEEN FOOLING MYSELF ALL ALONG."

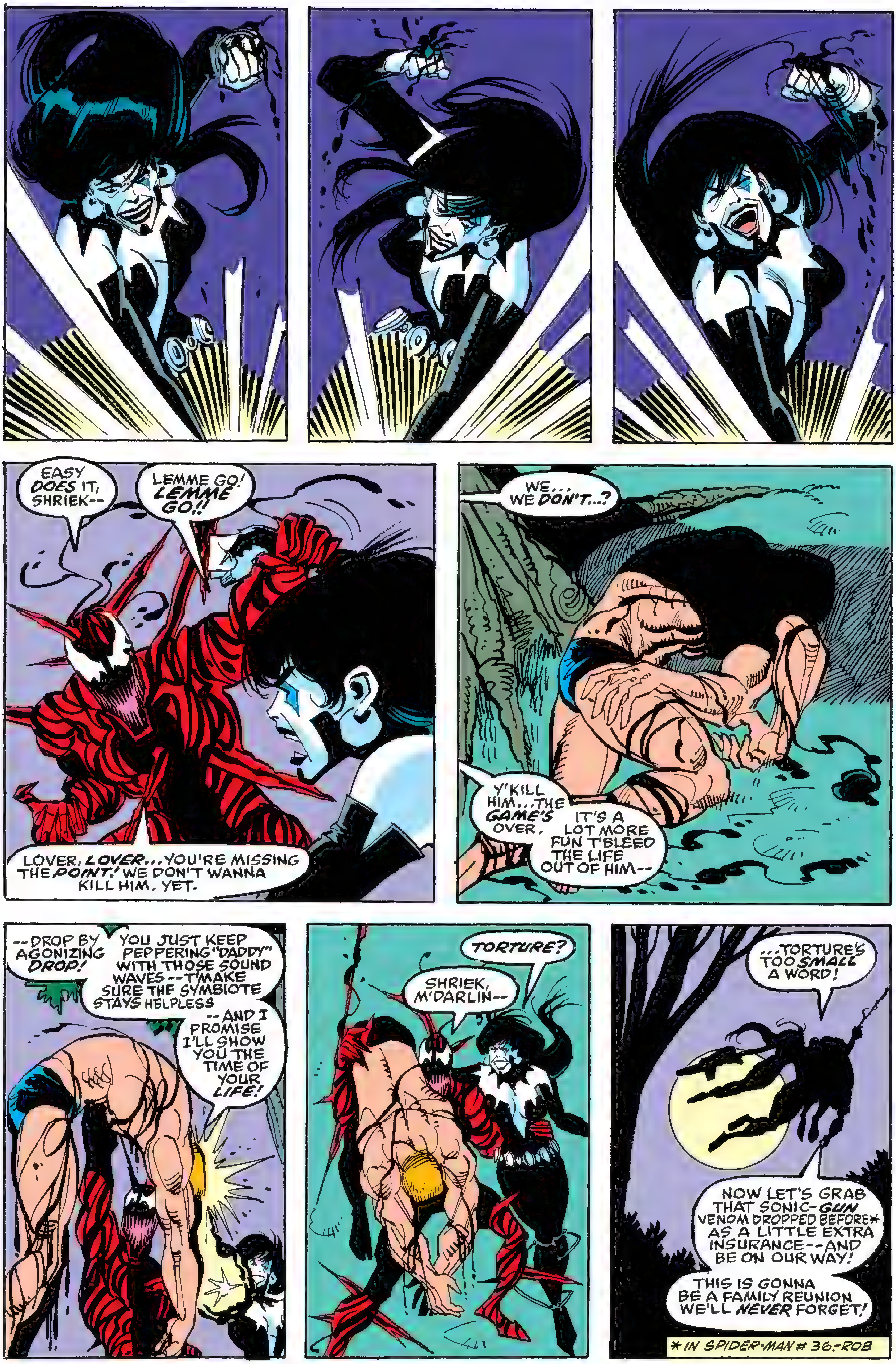

SHE CHANNELS HER MICROWAVE ENERGIES WITH A FEROCITY, A RAGE, SHE'S NEVER DARED BEFORE. BELOW HER, CARNAGE--HIS SYMBIOTE UNRAVELING--FLAPS AND FLAILS, BEGGING FOR MERCY. ALL ARROGANCE GONE: MORE A CHILD THAN A MAN.
OH, BABY... DO IT TO 'IM!
DO IT TO 'IM!
SHE TRIES TO SHUT OUT KASADY'S PATHETIC SCREAMS, VENOM'S TWISTED URGINGS; TO TURN HER HEART TO STONE AND BLOCK OFF ALL FEELING.
F-FIRESTAR--
COOK THE MURDERING SCUM!
MAKE HIM SUFFER! MAKE HIM BURN!
BUT A PART OF HER...THE DEEPEST PART, THE TRUEST PART...WON'T LET HER BECOME STONE. WON'T LET HER BECOME THE VERY THING SHE'S DEDICATED HER LIFE TO OPPOSING.
FIRESTAR! I WAS WRONG!
YOU'VE GOT TO STOP!
MAKE
HIM
AND WHEN SPIDER-MAN GIVES VOICE TO THAT DEEP TRUTH...
IN THE NAME OF GOD--
--STOP!!
...SHE PULLS BACK...
STOP?!

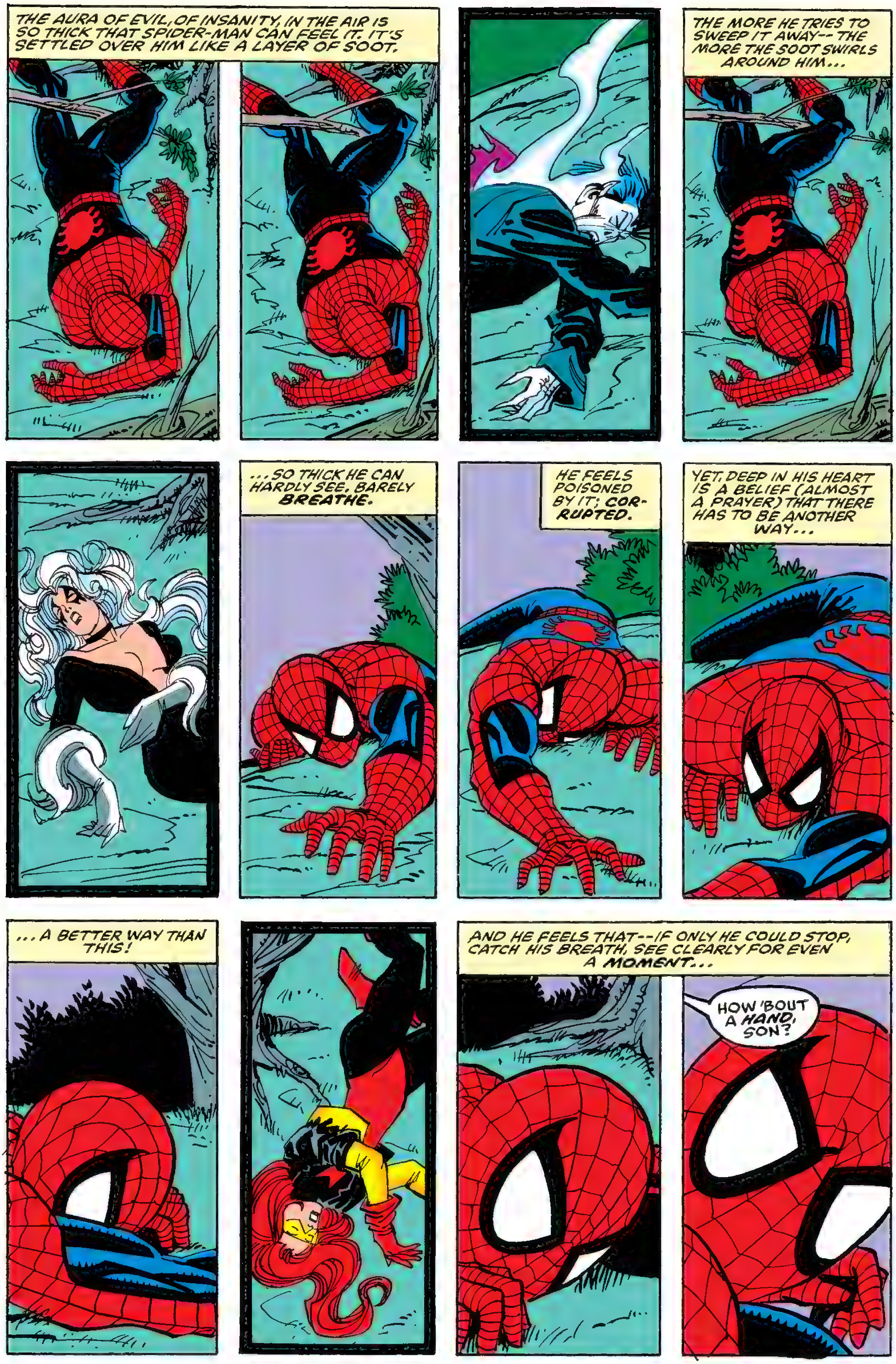

CARNAGE--?!
DON'T WANNA DIE!
DON'T
WANNA
DIE!
...JUST IN TIME.
WITCH! BETRAYER OF INNOCENTS! WHAT DID YOU DO?!
WHAT'D I DO?
JUST STOPPED MYSELF... FROM MAKING THE BIGGEST MISTAKE OF MY LIFE--
--THAT'S ALL.
OH, YOU MADE A MISTAKE ALL RIGHT--
'CAUSE NOW YOU HAVEN'T JUST GOT CARNAGE OUT FOR YOUR BLOOD--
--YOU'VE GOT US!
FIRESTAR'S PUSHED HERSELF WAY PAST HER LIMITS --VENOM'LL TAKE HER APART IF I DON'T DO SOMETHING--
KA-CHOOOOM!
--FAST!
WE DON'T KNOW WHY WE EVER THOUGHT WE COULD WORK WITH YOU!
YOU'RE TOO SOFT! TOO WEAK! YOU'LL NEVER BE LIKE US!
BEST NEWS I'VE HEARD ALL DAY!
TH-KOW!
OH, HOW WE HATE YOU!

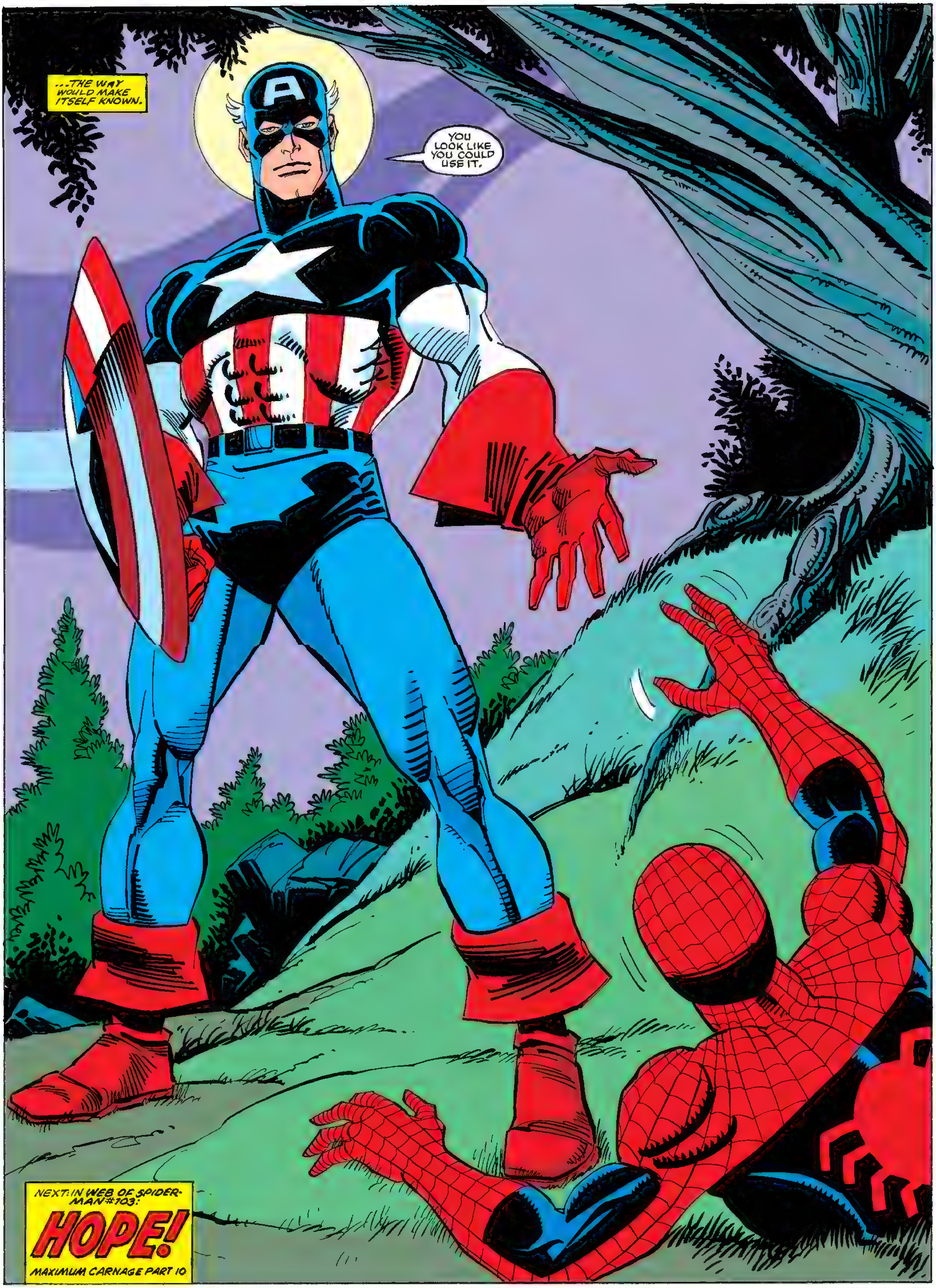

WE HATE YOU!!
FRA-
KOOOM!
NO MORE PLAYING BY THE SPIDER'S RULES! NO MORE WEAKLING PARTNERS GETTING IN THE WAY OF OUR VENGEANCE!
FROM THIS MOMENT ON... IT'S DOWN TO VENOM AND--
LOOKING FOR ME, "DADDY"-DEAREST?
--CARNAGE!!
"POP"--THE LITTLE WOMAN AND I HAVE BEEN TALKING IT OVER... AND WE'VE DECIDED THAT YOU'RE JUST TOO MUCH OF A BURDEN ON THE FAMILY--
--WHAT WITH SENDING THE KIDS T'PRIVATE SCHOOL AND THE MORTGAGE AN' ALL--WE JUST CAN'T AFFORD YOU ANY MORE.
IN OTHER WORDS, OLD MAN--IT'S TIME T'DIE.
AN' I'M GONNA LET THE "WIFE" TAKE THE FIRST CRACK AT YOU!
A LITTLE HUMILIATION BEFORE I FINISH YOU OFF!
ONLY HUMILIATION WE'VE SEEN HERE TODAY... WAS YOU BEGGING AND CRYING--
--LIKE THE BED-WETTING INFANT YOU ARE!


TOUGH TALK, "GRAN'PA"! NOW LET'S SEE WHO *REALLY* HAS THE POWER AROUND HERE!
THIS IS *PURE* SOUND! ENOUGH TO PEEL THAT SYMBIOTE RIGHT *OFF* YOU!
SHRAAAAAK
GIVE IT YOUR BEST *SHOT*, DOLL--
--BUT JUST *REMEMBER*-- IF YOU *FAIL*--
RAAAAAK
--YOU'RE NOT GONNA LIVE LONG ENOUGH TO EVEN *KNOW* IT!
AAAAK
YOU'RE GOING DOWN!
NO.
I SAID--
AKKK
YOU'RE GOING DOWN!!
AND I SAID
AAAK


NO...?
YES!


EASY **DOES** IT, SHRIEK--
LEMME GO! ***LEMME GO!!***
LOVER, ***LOVER***... YOU'RE MISSING THE ***POINT!*** WE DON'T WANNA KILL HIM. YET.
WE... WE ***DON'T***...?
Y'KILL HIM... THE ***GAME'S*** OVER.
IT'S A LOT MORE FUN T'BLEED THE LIFE OUT OF HIM--
--DROP BY AGONIZING ***DROP!***
YOU JUST KEEP PEPPERING "DADDY" WITH THOSE SOUND WAVES--T'MAKE SURE THE SYMBIOTE STAYS HELPLESS
--AND I PROMISE I'LL SHOW YOU THE TIME OF YOUR ***LIFE!***
TORTURE?
SHRIEK, M'DARLIN--
...TORTURE'S TOO ***SMALL*** A WORD!
NOW LET'S GRAB THAT SONIC-***GUN*** VENOM DROPPED BEFORE* AS A LITTLE EXTRA INSURANCE--AND BE ON OUR WAY!
THIS IS GONNA BE A FAMILY REUNION WE'LL ***NEVER*** FORGET!
**IN SPIDER-MAN # 36.-ROB*


THE AURA OF EVIL, OF INSANITY, IN THE AIR IS SO THICK THAT SPIDER-MAN CAN FEEL IT. IT'S SETTLED OVER HIM LIKE A LAYER OF SOOT.
THE MORE HE TRIES TO SWEEP IT AWAY-- THE MORE THE SOOT SWIRLS AROUND HIM...
...SO THICK HE CAN HARDLY SEE. BARELY BREATHE.
HE FEELS POISONED BY IT; CORRUPTED.
YET, DEEP IN HIS HEART IS A BELIEF (ALMOST A PRAYER) THAT THERE HAS TO BE ANOTHER WAY...
...A BETTER WAY THAN THIS!
AND HE FEELS THAT--IF ONLY HE COULD STOP, CATCH HIS BREATH, SEE CLEARLY FOR EVEN A MOMENT...
HOW 'BOUT A HAND, SON?


...THE WAY WOULD MAKE ITSELF KNOWN.
YOU LOOK LIKE YOU COULD USE IT.
NEXT: IN WEB OF SPIDER-MAN #103:
HOPE!
MAXIMUM CARNAGE PART 10

MARVEL® COMICS
MAXIMUM CARNAGE™
PART 10 OF 14
WEB OF SPIDER-MAN™
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$1.60 CAN/UK 85p
103
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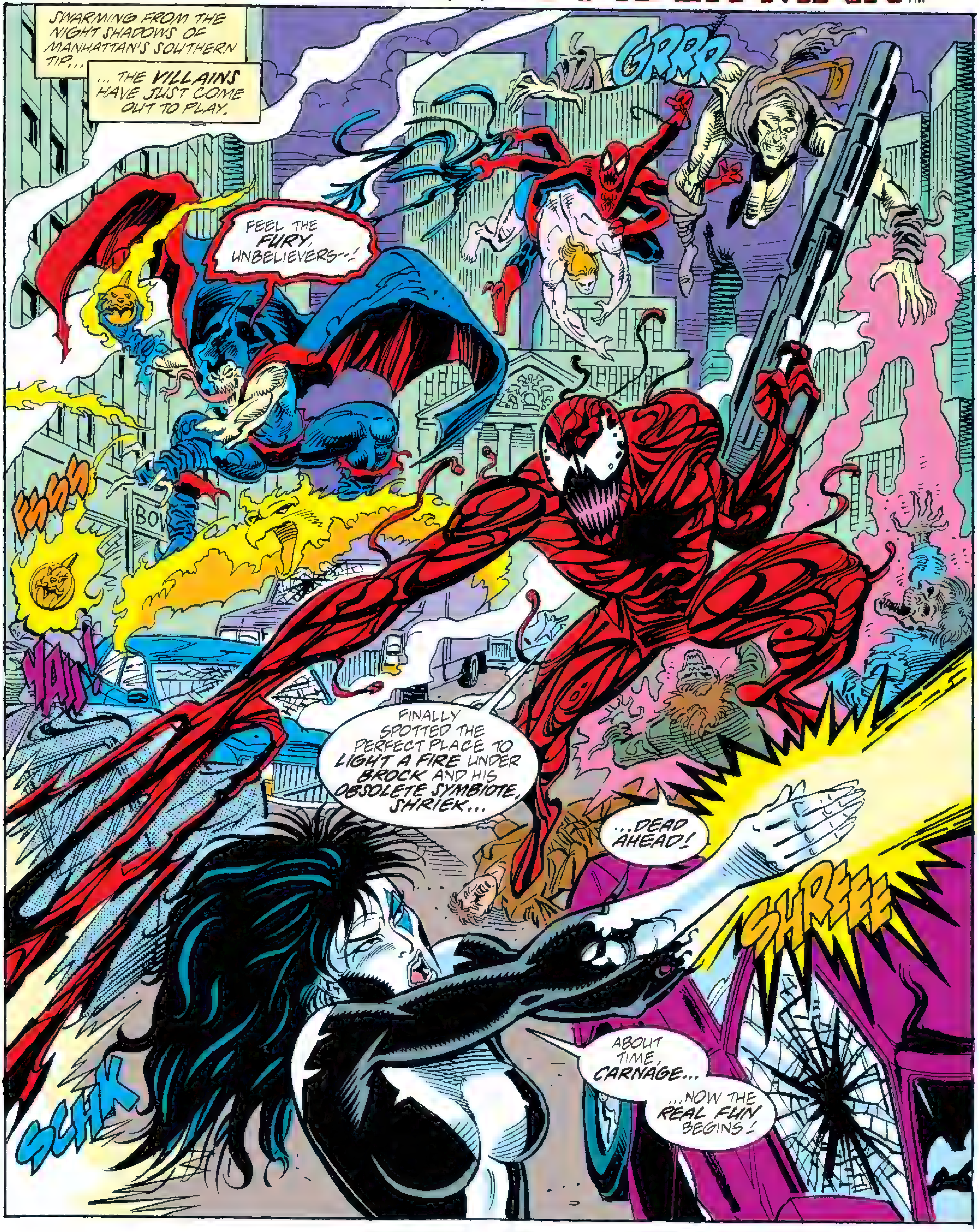
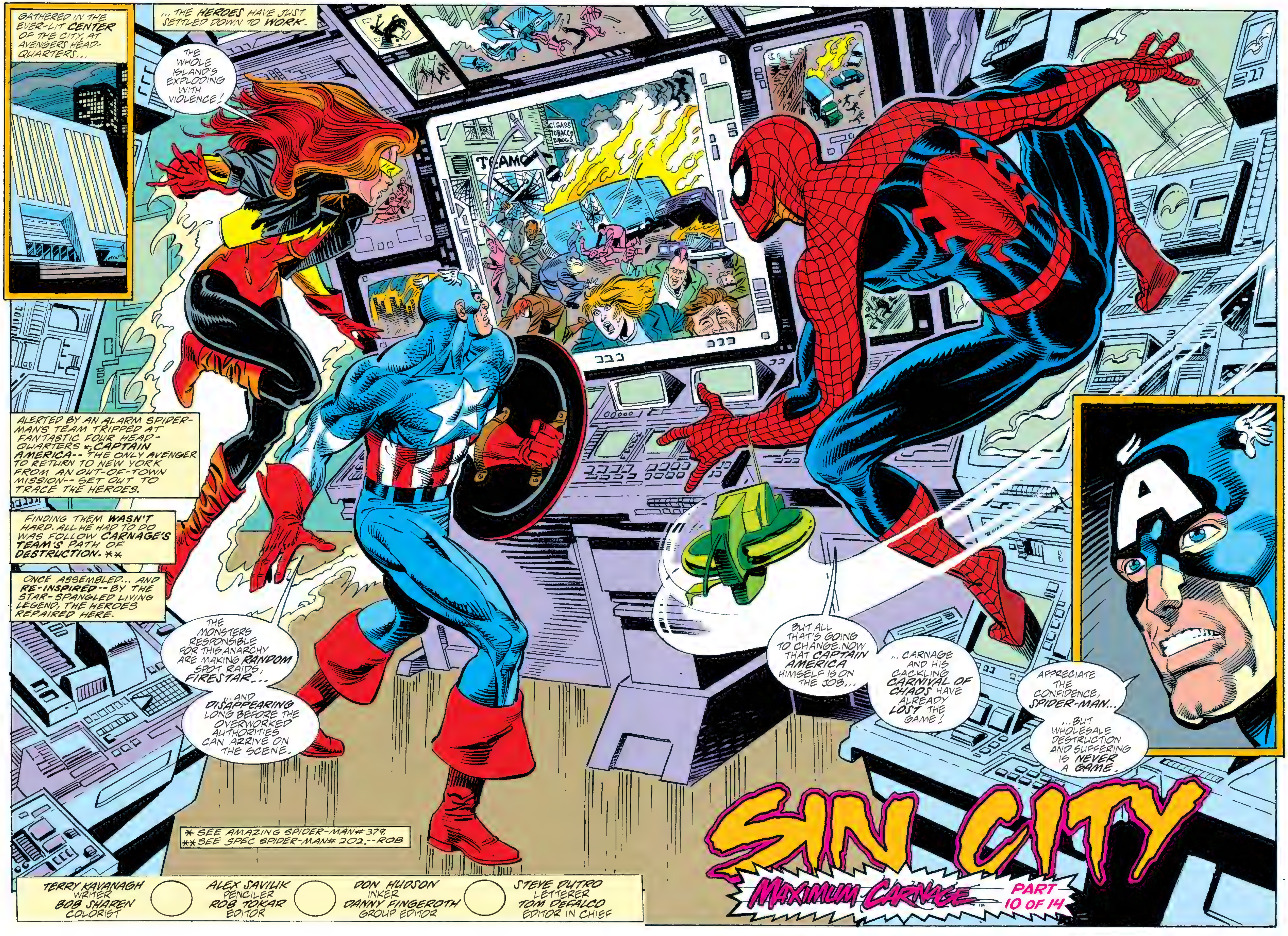
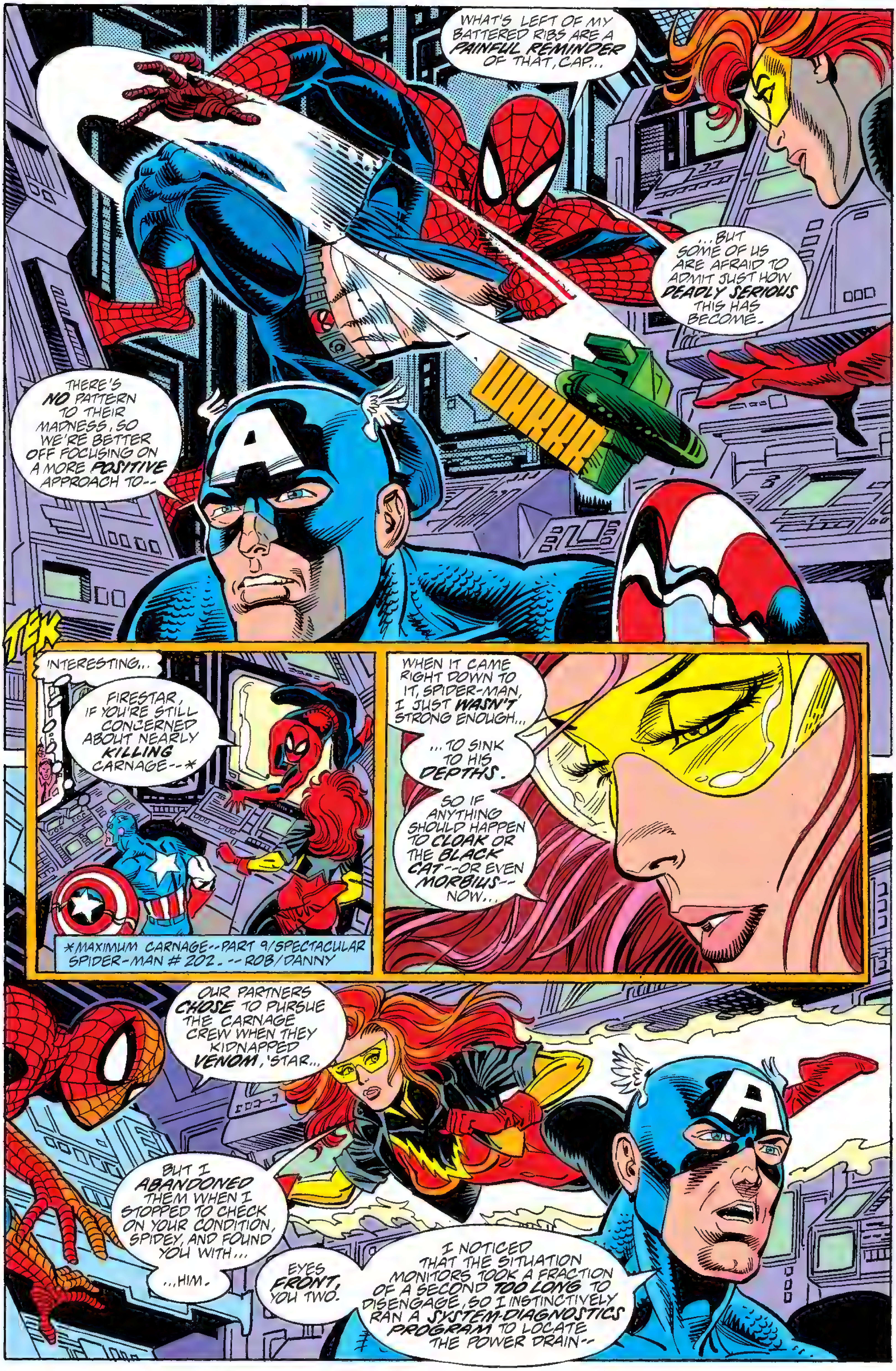
CC 02527
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
INSIDE: VENOM™ AT THE MERCY OF CARNAGE!
A. SAVIUK

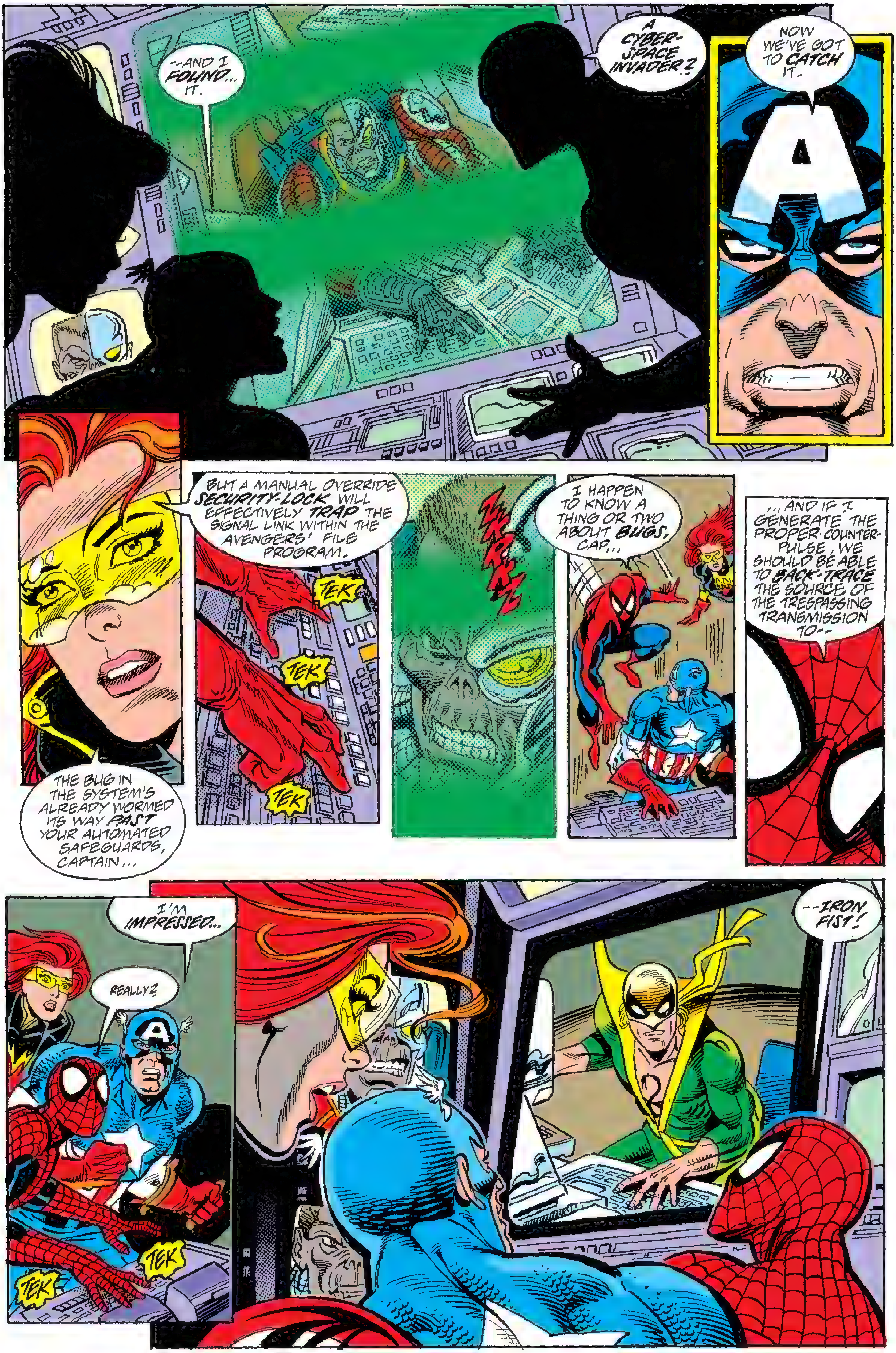
BITTEN BY A RADIOACTIVE SPIDER, STUDENT* PETER PARKER *GAINED THE PROPORTIONATE STRENGTH AND AGILITY OF AN ARACHNID! ARMED WITH HIS WONDROUS WEB-SHOOTERS, THE RELUCTANT SUPER HERO STRUGGLES WITH SINISTER SUPER-VILLAINS, MAKING ENDS MEET, AND MAINTAINING SOME SEMBLANCE OF A NORMAL LIFE!

Stan Lee PRESENTS: WEB OF SPIDER-MAN™


SWARMING FROM THE NIGHT SHADOWS OF MANHATTAN'S SOUTHERN TIP...
...THE VILLAINS HAVE JUST COME OUT TO PLAY.
GRRR
FEEL THE FURY, UNBELIEVERS--!
FSSS
BOW
YAH!
FINALLY SPOTTED THE PERFECT PLACE TO LIGHT A FIRE UNDER BROCK AND HIS OBSOLETE SYMBIOTE, SHRIEK...
...DEAD AHEAD!
SHREEE
ABOUT TIME, CARNAGE...
...NOW THE REAL FUN BEGINS!
SCHK

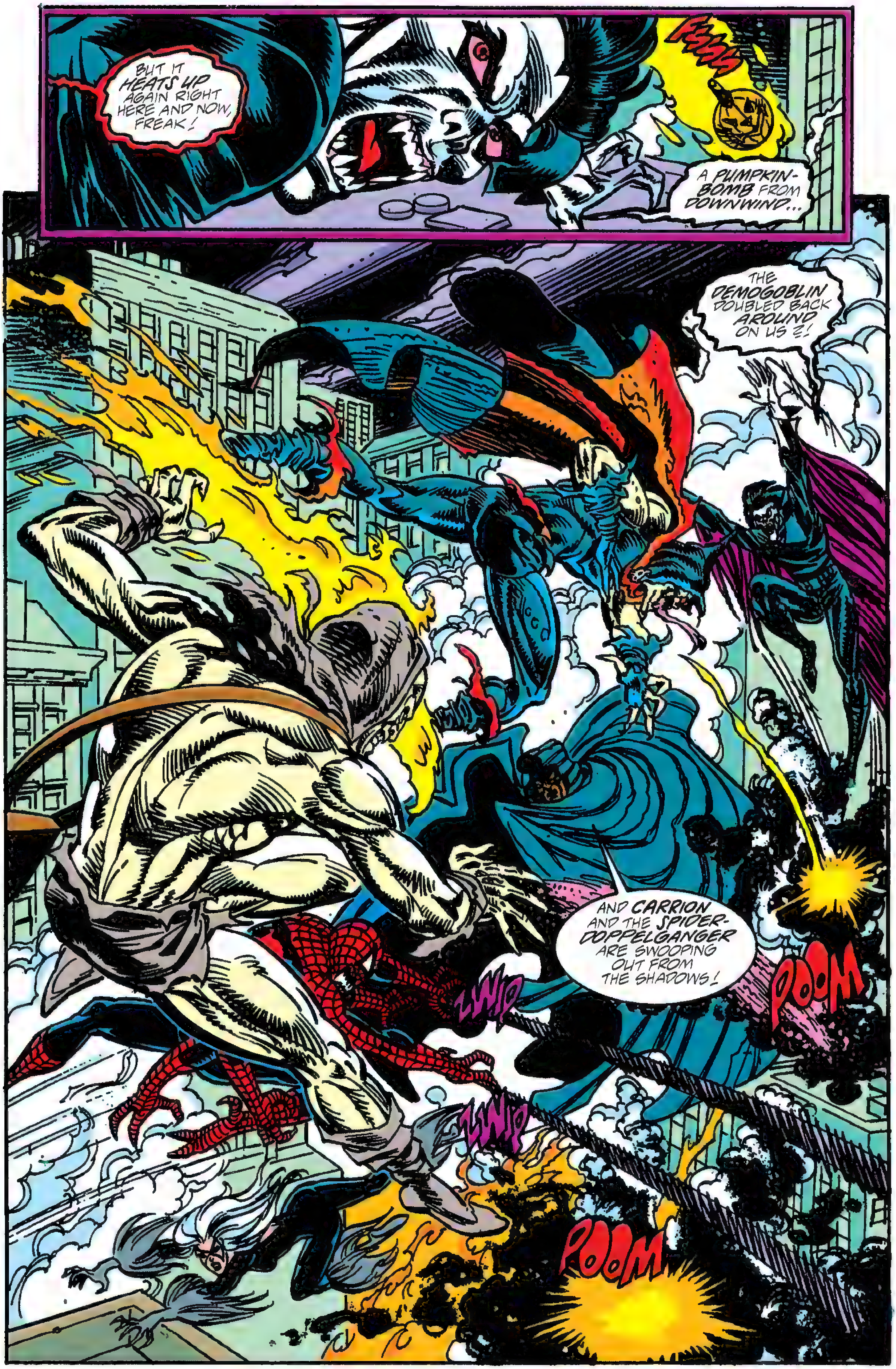

GATHERED IN THE EVER-LIT CENTER OF THE CITY, AT AVENGERS HEADQUARTERS...
...THE HEROES HAVE JUST SETTLED DOWN TO WORK.
THE WHOLE ISLAND'S EXPLODING WITH VIOLENCE!
CIGARS TOBACCO DRUGS
ALERTED BY AN ALARM SPIDER-MAN'S TEAM TRIPPED AT FANTASTIC FOUR HEADQUARTERS*, CAPTAIN AMERICA-- THE ONLY AVENGER TO RETURN TO NEW YORK FROM AN OUT-OF-TOWN MISSION-- SET OUT TO TRACE THE HEROES.
FINDING THEM WASN'T HARD. ALL HE HAD TO DO WAS FOLLOW CARNAGE'S TEAM'S PATH OF DESTRUCTION.**
ONCE ASSEMBLED... AND RE-INSPIRED-- BY THE STAR-SPANGLED LIVING LEGEND, THE HEROES REPAIRED HERE.
THE MONSTERS RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS ANARCHY ARE MAKING RANDOM SPOT RAIDS, FIRESTAR...
...AND DISAPPEARING LONG BEFORE THE OVERWORKED AUTHORITIES CAN ARRIVE ON THE SCENE.
BUT ALL THAT'S GOING TO CHANGE, NOW THAT CAPTAIN AMERICA HIMSELF IS ON THE JOB...
...CARNAGE AND HIS CACKLING CARNIVAL OF CHAOS HAVE ALREADY LOST THE GAME!
APPRECIATE THE CONFIDENCE, SPIDER-MAN...
...BUT WHOLESALE DESTRUCTION AND SUFFERING IS NEVER A GAME.
*SEE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #379.
**SEE SPEC SPIDER-MAN #202.--ROB
SIN CITY
MAXIMUM CARNAGE™
PART 10 OF 14
TERRY KAVANAGH WRITER
BOB SHAREN COLORIST
ALEX SAVIUK PENCILER
ROB TOKAR EDITOR
DON HUDSON INKER
DANNY FINGEROTH GROUP EDITOR
STEVE DUTRO LETTERER
TOM DEFALCO EDITOR IN CHIEF

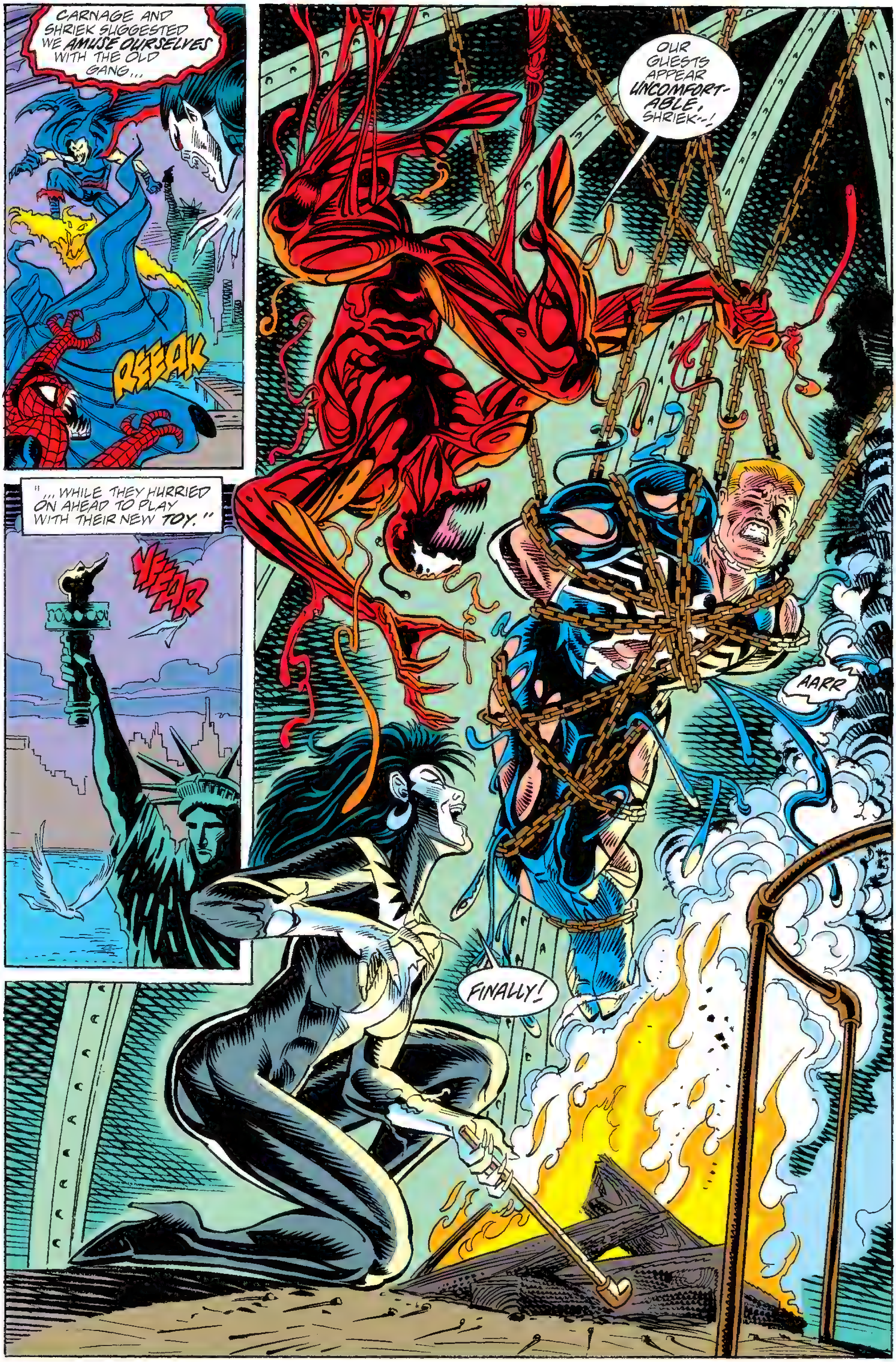

WHAT'S LEFT OF MY BATTERED RIBS ARE A PAINFUL REMINDER OF THAT, CAP...
...BUT SOME OF US ARE AFRAID TO ADMIT JUST HOW DEADLY SERIOUS THIS HAS BECOME.
WHRRR
THERE'S NO PATTERN TO THEIR MADNESS, SO WE'RE BETTER OFF FOCUSING ON A MORE POSITIVE APPROACH TO--
TEK
INTERESTING...
FIRESTAR, IF YOU'RE STILL CONCERNED ABOUT NEARLY KILLING CARNAGE--*
*MAXIMUM CARNAGE--PART 9/SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN # 202. -- ROB/DANNY
WHEN IT CAME RIGHT DOWN TO IT, SPIDER-MAN, I JUST WASN'T STRONG ENOUGH...
...TO SINK TO HIS DEPTHS.
SO IF ANYTHING SHOULD HAPPEN TO CLOAK OR THE BLACK CAT--OR EVEN MORBIUS--NOW...
OUR PARTNERS CHOSE TO PURSUE THE CARNAGE CREW WHEN THEY KIDNAPPED VENOM, 'STAR...
BUT I ABANDONED THEM WHEN I STOPPED TO CHECK ON YOUR CONDITION, SPIDEY, AND FOUND YOU WITH...
...HIM.
EYES FRONT, YOU TWO.
I NOTICED THAT THE SITUATION MONITORS TOOK A FRACTION OF A SECOND TOO LONG TO DISENGAGE, SO I INSTINCTIVELY RAN A SYSTEM-DIAGNOSTICS PROGRAM TO LOCATE THE POWER DRAIN--

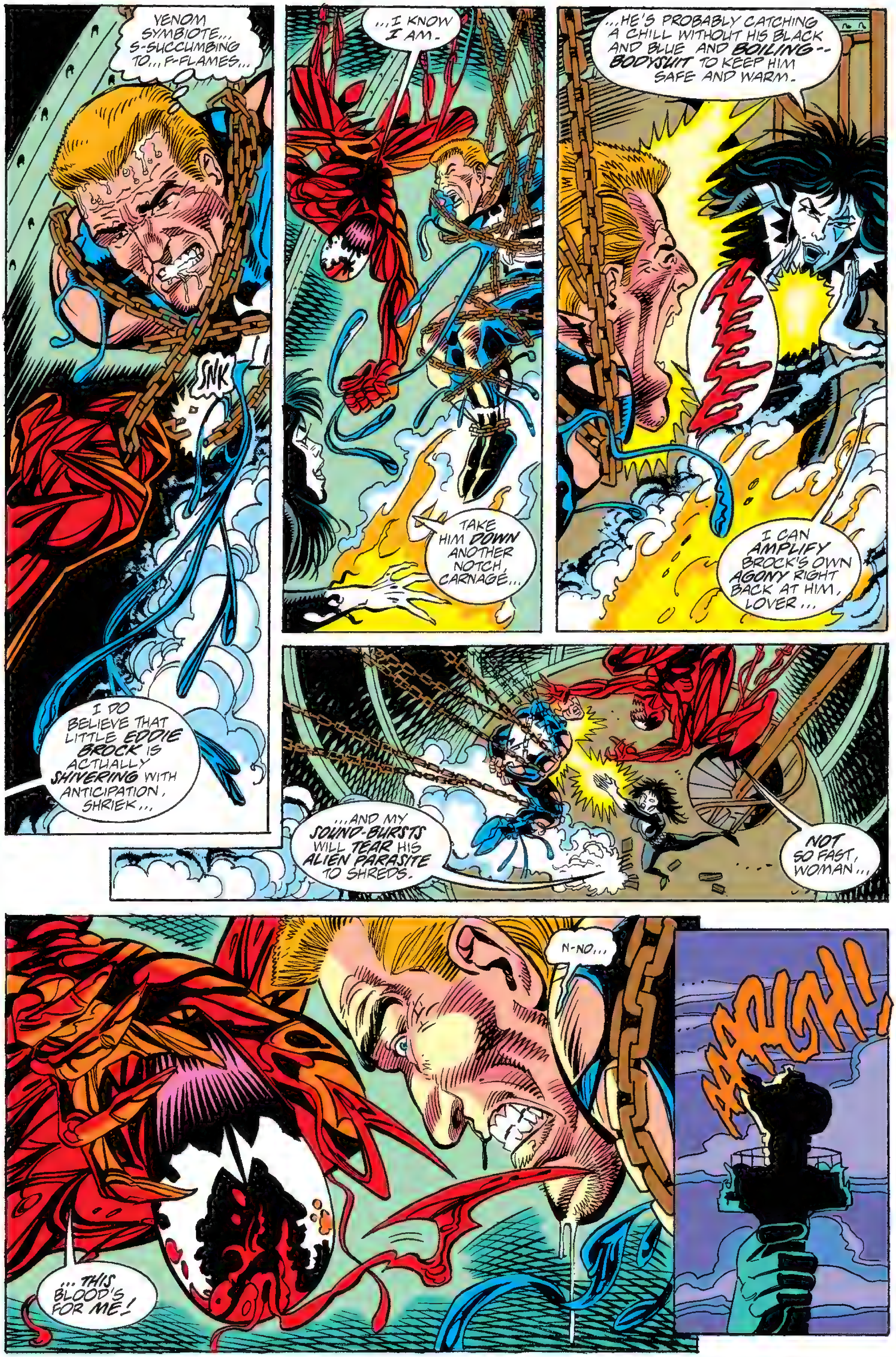

--AND I FOUND... IT.
A CYBER-SPACE INVADER?
NOW WE'VE GOT TO CATCH IT.
THE BUG IN THE SYSTEM'S ALREADY WORMED ITS WAY PAST YOUR AUTOMATED SAFEGUARDS, CAPTAIN...
BUT A MANUAL OVERRIDE SECURITY-LOCK WILL EFFECTIVELY TRAP THE SIGNAL LINK WITHIN THE AVENGERS' FILE PROGRAM.
TEK
TEK
TEK
I HAPPEN TO KNOW A THING OR TWO ABOUT BUGS, CAP...
...AND IF I GENERATE THE PROPER COUNTER-PULSE, WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO BACK-TRACE THE SOURCE OF THE TRESPASSING TRANSMISSION TO--
I'M IMPRESSED...
REALLY?
TEK
TEK
--IRON FIST!

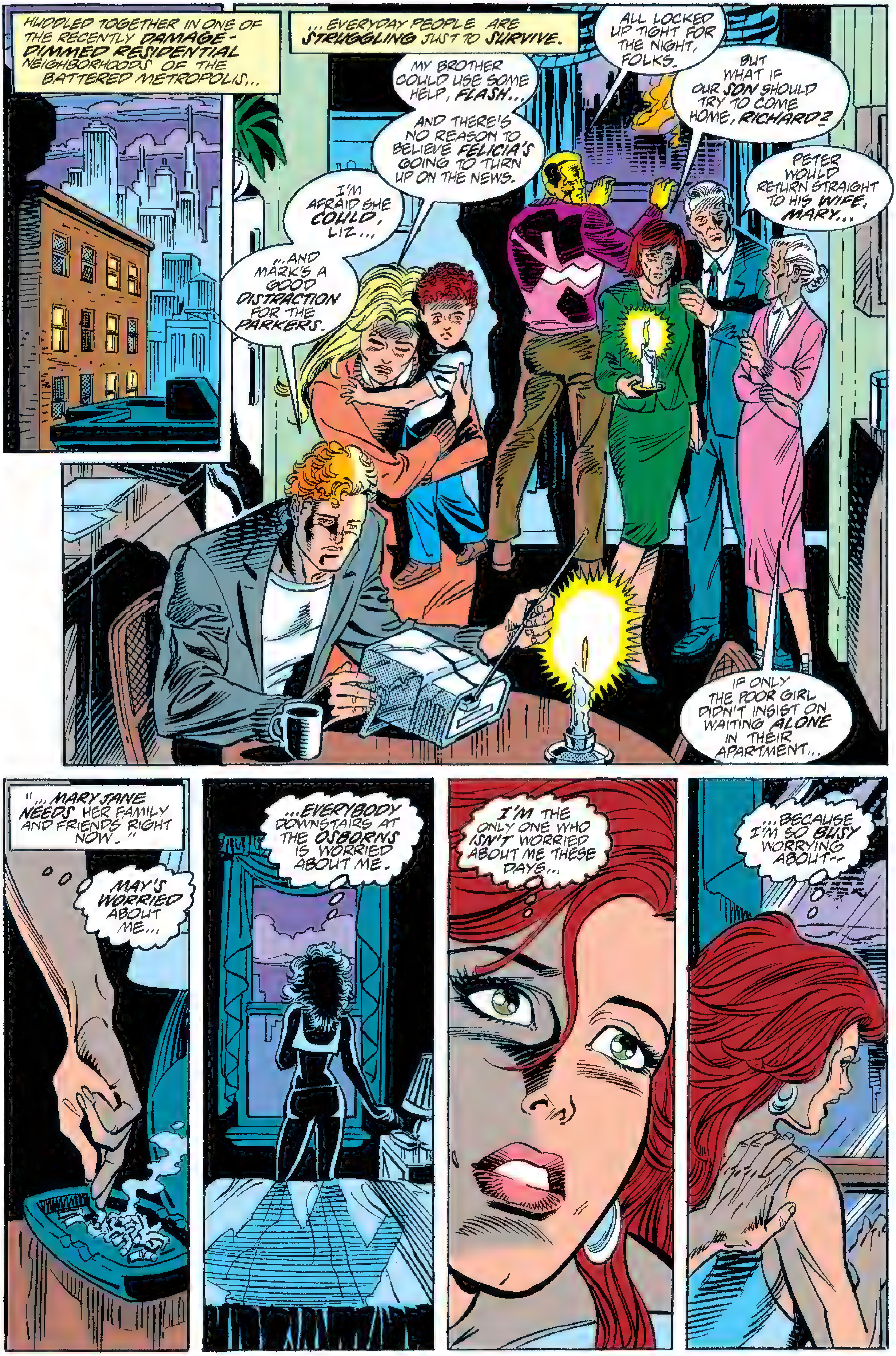
FIST SUPPLIED THE STATE-OF-THE-ART HARDWARE, AVENGER...
BUT IT TOOK THE SINGULAR SKILLS OF DEATHLOK TO HACK US THIS FAR INTO YOUR SECURED SYSTEMS.
AND WHAT EXACTLY WERE YOU ATTEMPTING TO ACCESS IN OUR RESTRICTED CASE FILES?
ANYTHING YOU HAVE ON THE BUTCHERS THAT TORE THROUGH THIS CITY-- AND MOST OF ME-- EARLIER TODAY*... WITH A MINIMUM OF RED TAPE.
*"MAXIMUM CARNAGE"-- PART 7 AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #379.-- ROB/DANNY
WE LOST THEM IN THE TIME IT TOOK TO REPAIR MY CYBORG COMRADE'S DAMAGED CIRCUITS, SO WE WERE HOPING TO AVOID ANY FURTHER DELAYS.
WHILE I CAN'T CONDONE DEATHLOK AND IRON FIST'S ROGUE METHODS, THEIR DETERMINATION AND RESOURCES COULD PROVE INVALUABLE UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES, TEAM.
I TRUST YOUR INSTINCTS, CAPTAIN.
WITH THE REST OF MY FELLOW AVENGERS CURRENTLY OUT OF THE AREA--
--WE'LL TAKE ALL THE HELP WE CAN GET...
ROOFTOP RENDEZVOUS AT FIVE, CAP.
SHOULD GIVE THEM ENOUGH TIME TO COMBINE FORCES FOR A CURRENT FIX ON CARNAGE WHILE I CHECK IN AT HOME.
AVENGERS EQUIPMENT PATCHED UP MY RIB CAGE AND CAPTAIN AMERICA SHORED UP MY CONFIDENCE...
...BUT PETER PARKER NEEDS A MORE PERSONAL TOUCH.

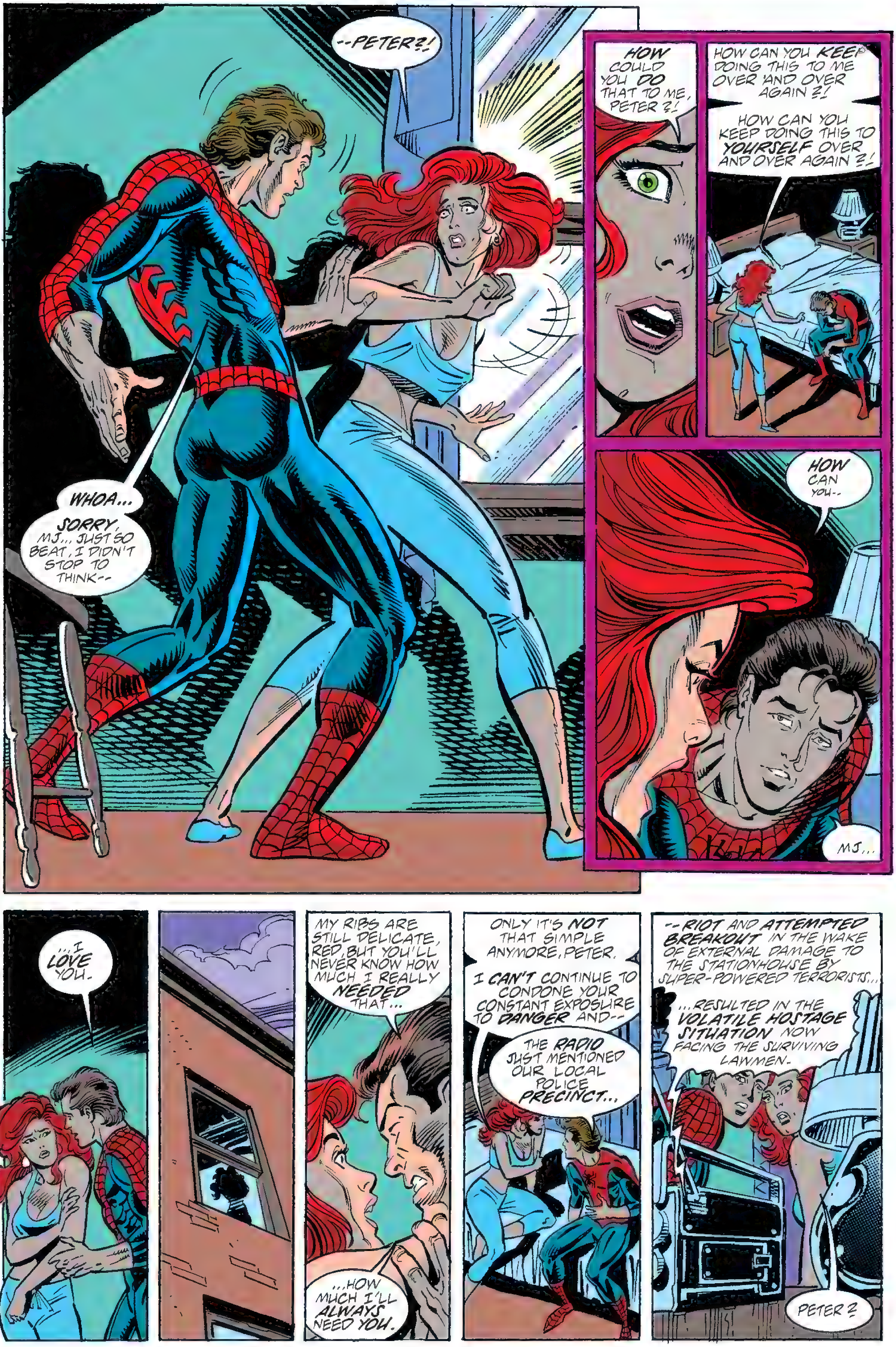
ARRIVING AT THE MOST RECENT SCENE OF DARK DEVASTATION IN LOWER MANHATTAN...
...A BREED OF HUNTERS THAT DEFY SIMPLE DESCRIPTION HAS JUST HIT A DEAD END.
TOO LATE!
...AND THERE ARE PEOPLE IN REAL TROUBLE DOWN THERE!
SHRIEK AND HER TWISTED "FAMILY" HAVE COME AND GONE ALREADY!
BUT THE EMERGENCY CREWS CAN'T GET ANYWHERE NEAR THIS AREA...
WE'VE ALL AGREED THAT STOPPING THIS REIGN OF TERROR AT ITS SOURCE MUST BE OUR FIRST PRIORITY, BLACK CAT...
...WHATEVER THE COST.
I CANNOT TELEPORT AHEAD UNTIL YOUR VAMPIRIC SENSES PINPOINT OUR PREY, MORBIUS...
THEIR BLOOD-TRAIL GROWS COLD AT THE VERY EDGE OF THE WATER, CLOAK--


BUT IT HEATS UP AGAIN RIGHT HERE AND NOW, FREAK!
FOOOM
A PUMPKIN-BOMB FROM DOWNWIND...
THE DEMOGOBLIN DOUBLED BACK AROUND ON US?!
AND CARRION AND THE SPIDER-DOPPELGANGER ARE SWOOPING OUT FROM THE SHADOWS!
ZWIP
POOM
ZWIP
POOM

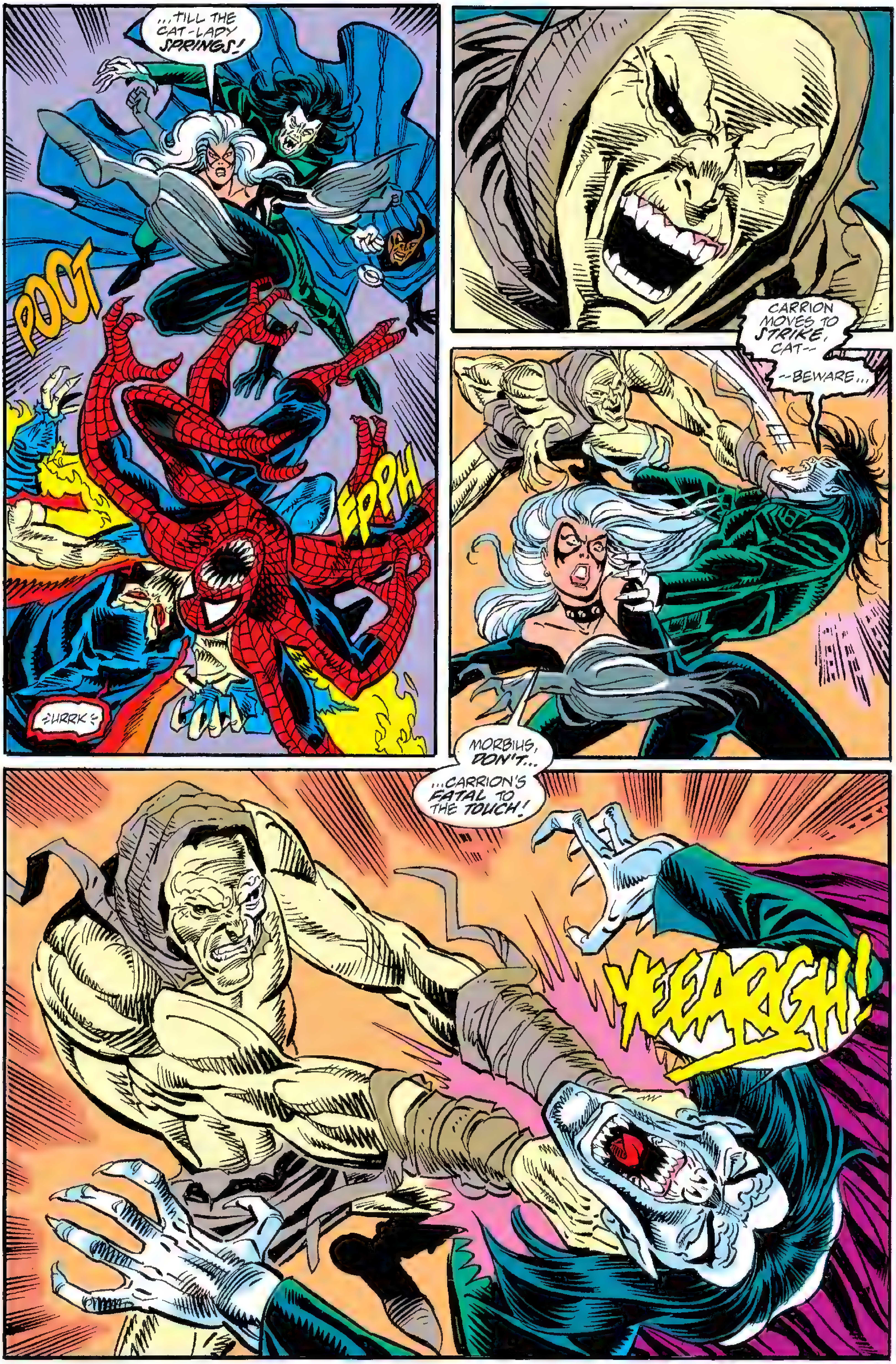

CARNAGE AND SHRIEK SUGGESTED WE AMUSE OURSELVES WITH THE OLD GANG...
REEAK
"...WHILE THEY HURRIED ON AHEAD TO PLAY WITH THEIR NEW TOY."
YEEAR
OUR GUESTS APPEAR UNCOMFORTABLE, SHRIEK--!
AARR
FINALLY!

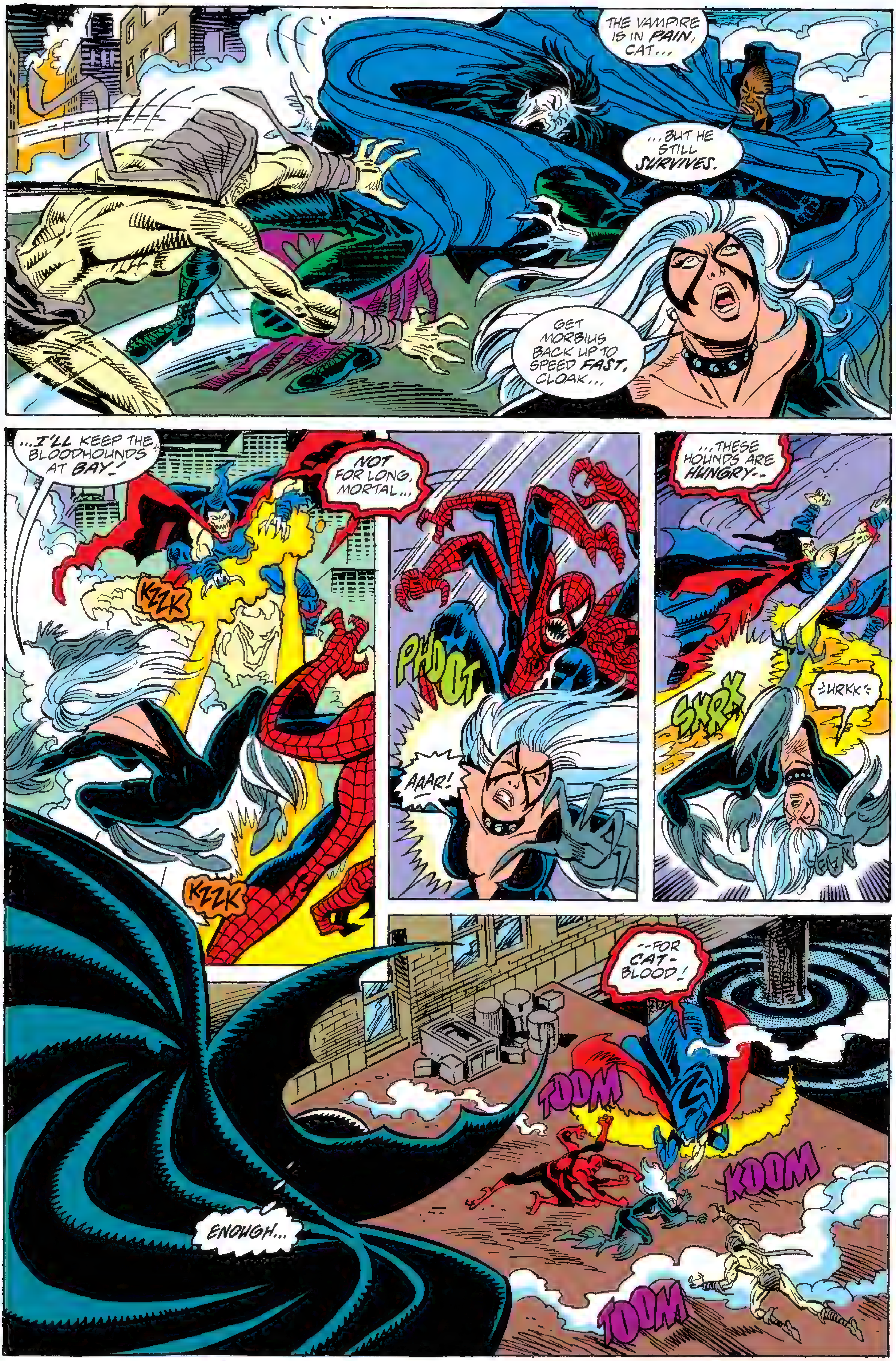

VENOM SYMBIOTE... S-SUCCUMBING TO... F-FLAMES...
SNK
I DO BELIEVE THAT LITTLE **EDDIE BROCK** IS ACTUALLY **SHIVERING** WITH ANTICIPATION, SHRIEK...
...I KNOW I AM.
TAKE HIM **DOWN** ANOTHER NOTCH, CARNAGE...
...HE'S PROBABLY CATCHING A CHILL WITHOUT HIS BLACK AND BLUE AND **BOILING--BODYSUIT** TO KEEP HIM SAFE AND WARM.
AEEEEE
I CAN **AMPLIFY** BROCK'S OWN **AGONY** RIGHT BACK AT HIM, LOVER...
...AND MY **SOUND-BURSTS** WILL **TEAR** HIS **ALIEN PARASITE** TO SHREDS.
NOT SO FAST, WOMAN...
N-NO...
...**THIS** BLOOD'S FOR **ME**!
AAAGH!

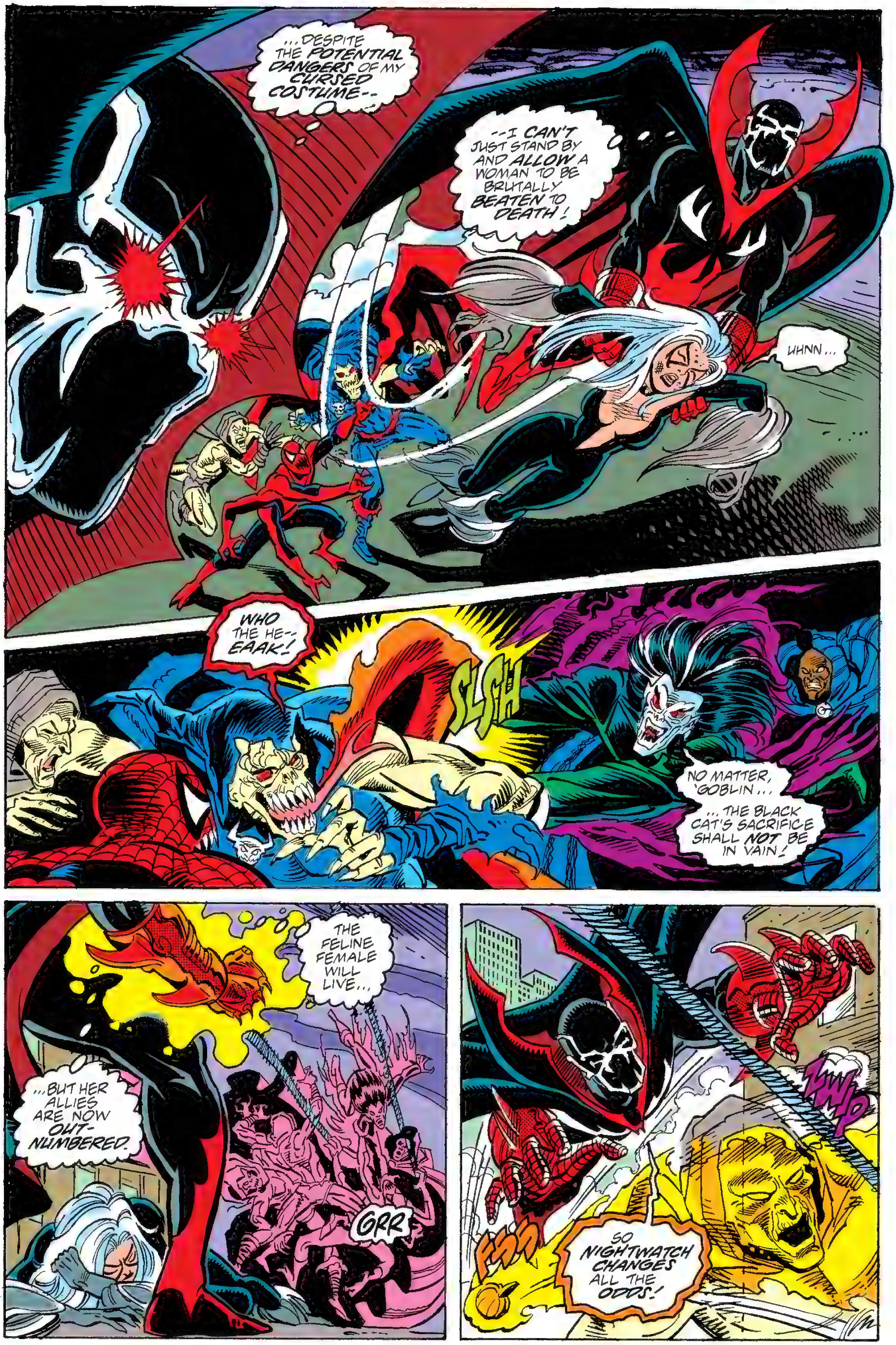

HUDDLED TOGETHER IN ONE OF THE RECENTLY **DAMAGE-DIMMED RESIDENTIAL** NEIGHBORHOODS OF THE BATTERED METROPOLIS...
...EVERYDAY PEOPLE ARE **STRUGGLING** JUST TO **SURVIVE**.
ALL LOCKED UP TIGHT FOR THE NIGHT, FOLKS.
MY BROTHER COULD USE SOME HELP, **FLASH**...
AND THERE'S NO REASON TO BELIEVE **FELICIA'S** GOING TO TURN UP ON THE NEWS.
BUT WHAT IF OUR **SON** SHOULD TRY TO COME HOME, **RICHARD**?
I'M AFRAID SHE **COULD**, LIZ...
...AND MARK'S A GOOD **DISTRACTION** FOR THE **PARKERS**.
PETER WOULD RETURN STRAIGHT TO HIS **WIFE**, **MARY**...
IF ONLY THE POOR GIRL DIDN'T INSIST ON WAITING **ALONE** IN THEIR APARTMENT...
"...**MARY JANE NEEDS** HER FAMILY AND FRIENDS RIGHT NOW."
MAY'S WORRIED ABOUT ME...
...**EVERYBODY** DOWNSTAIRS AT THE **OSBORNS** IS WORRIED ABOUT ME.
I'M THE ONLY ONE WHO **ISN'T** WORRIED ABOUT ME THESE DAYS...
...BECAUSE I'M SO **BUSY** WORRYING ABOUT--

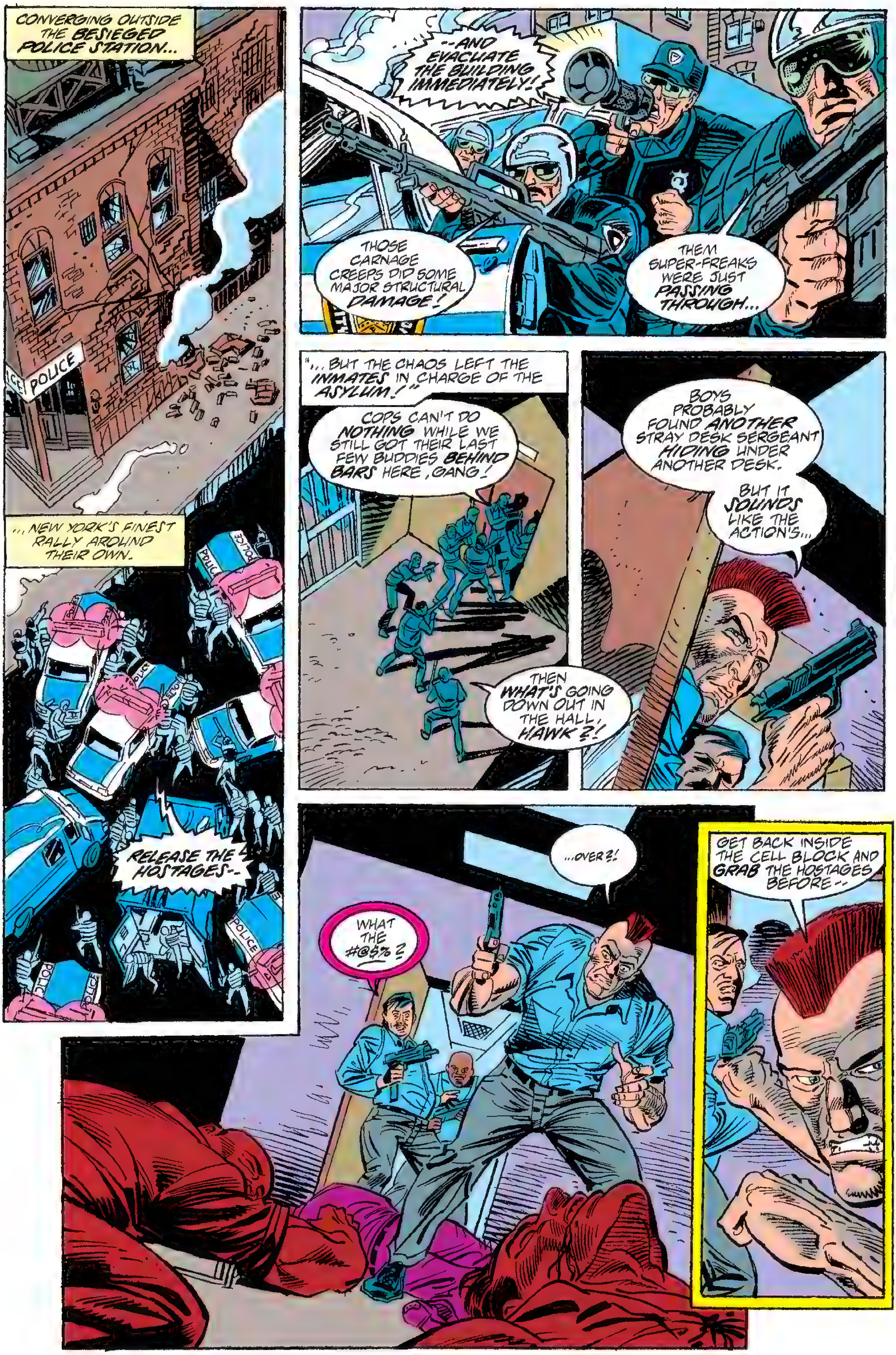

--PETER?!
WHOA... SORRY, MJ... JUST SO BEAT, I DIDN'T STOP TO THINK--
HOW COULD YOU DO THAT TO ME, PETER?!
HOW CAN YOU KEEP DOING THIS TO ME OVER AND OVER AGAIN?!
HOW CAN YOU KEEP DOING THIS TO YOURSELF OVER AND OVER AGAIN?!
HOW CAN YOU--
MJ...
...I LOVE YOU.
MY RIBS ARE STILL DELICATE, RED, BUT YOU'LL NEVER KNOW HOW MUCH I REALLY NEEDED THAT...
...HOW MUCH I'LL ALWAYS NEED YOU.
ONLY IT'S NOT THAT SIMPLE ANYMORE, PETER.
I CAN'T CONTINUE TO CONDONE YOUR CONSTANT EXPOSURE TO DANGER AND--
THE RADIO JUST MENTIONED OUR LOCAL POLICE PRECINCT...
--RIOT AND ATTEMPTED BREAKOUT IN THE WAKE OF EXTERNAL DAMAGE TO THE STATIONHOUSE BY SUPER-POWERED TERRORISTS...
...RESULTED IN THE VOLATILE HOSTAGE SITUATION NOW FACING THE SURVIVING LAWMEN.
PETER?

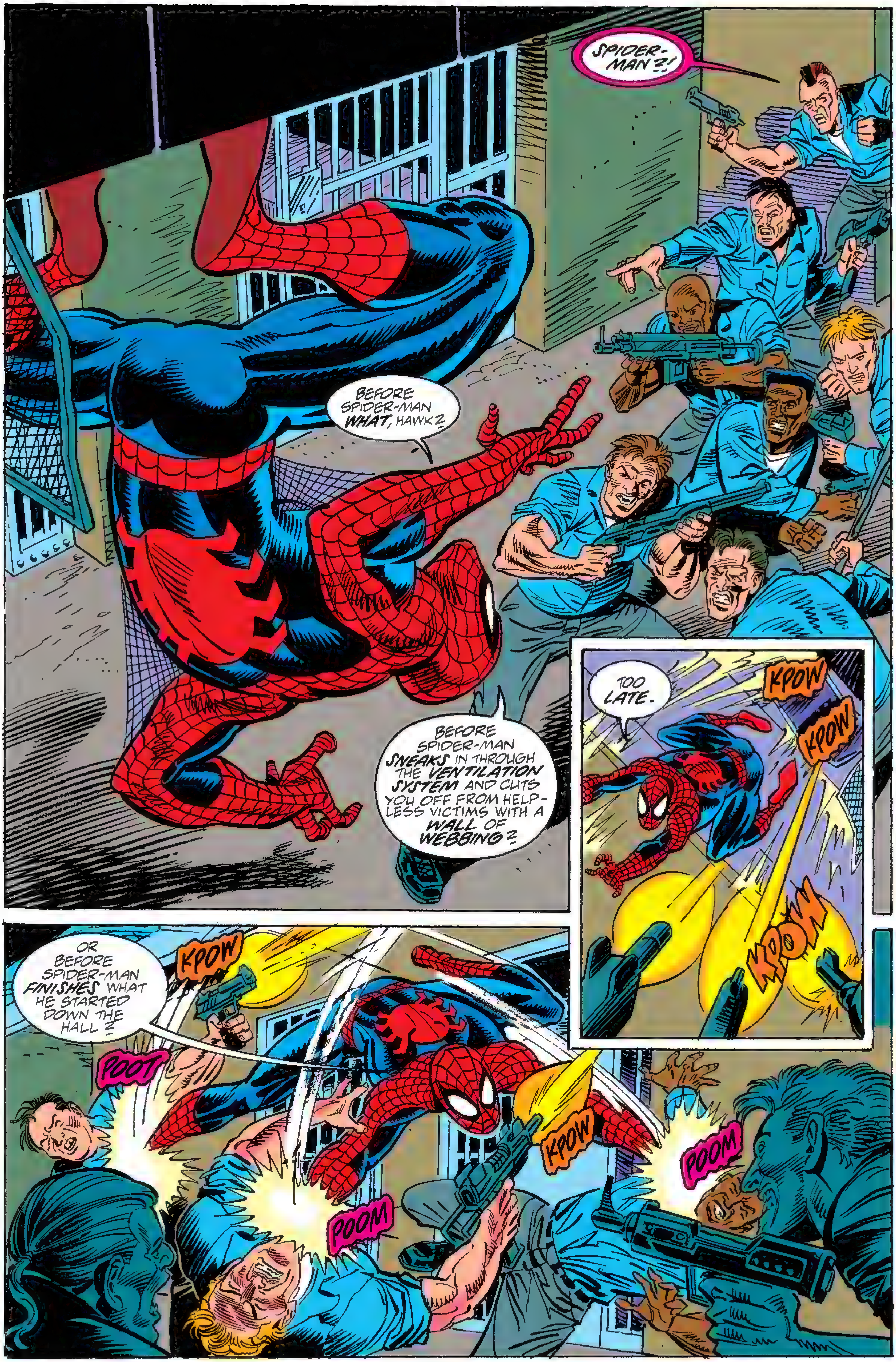
THE BOTTOM OF THE CITY...
YOU MAKE EVEN ME SICK DOPPELGANGER-- --YOU ARE TRULY AN ABOMINATION OF NATURE!
SWIP
SLISH
YOUR RAGGED ROBE WILL BE YOUR SHROUD, CLOAK!
SNK
A DRIFTER LIKE CARRION CAN'T EVADE MY CAT'S CLAW...
...BUT HE CAN APPARENTLY REDIRECT IT TELEKINETICALLY TOWARDS--
NO!
TOOM
KWUD
UHFF
REEAK
YOU THREE WERE YOUR OWN WORST ENEMIES...
...UNTIL NOW!
IT AIN'T OVER, DEMOGOBLIN...

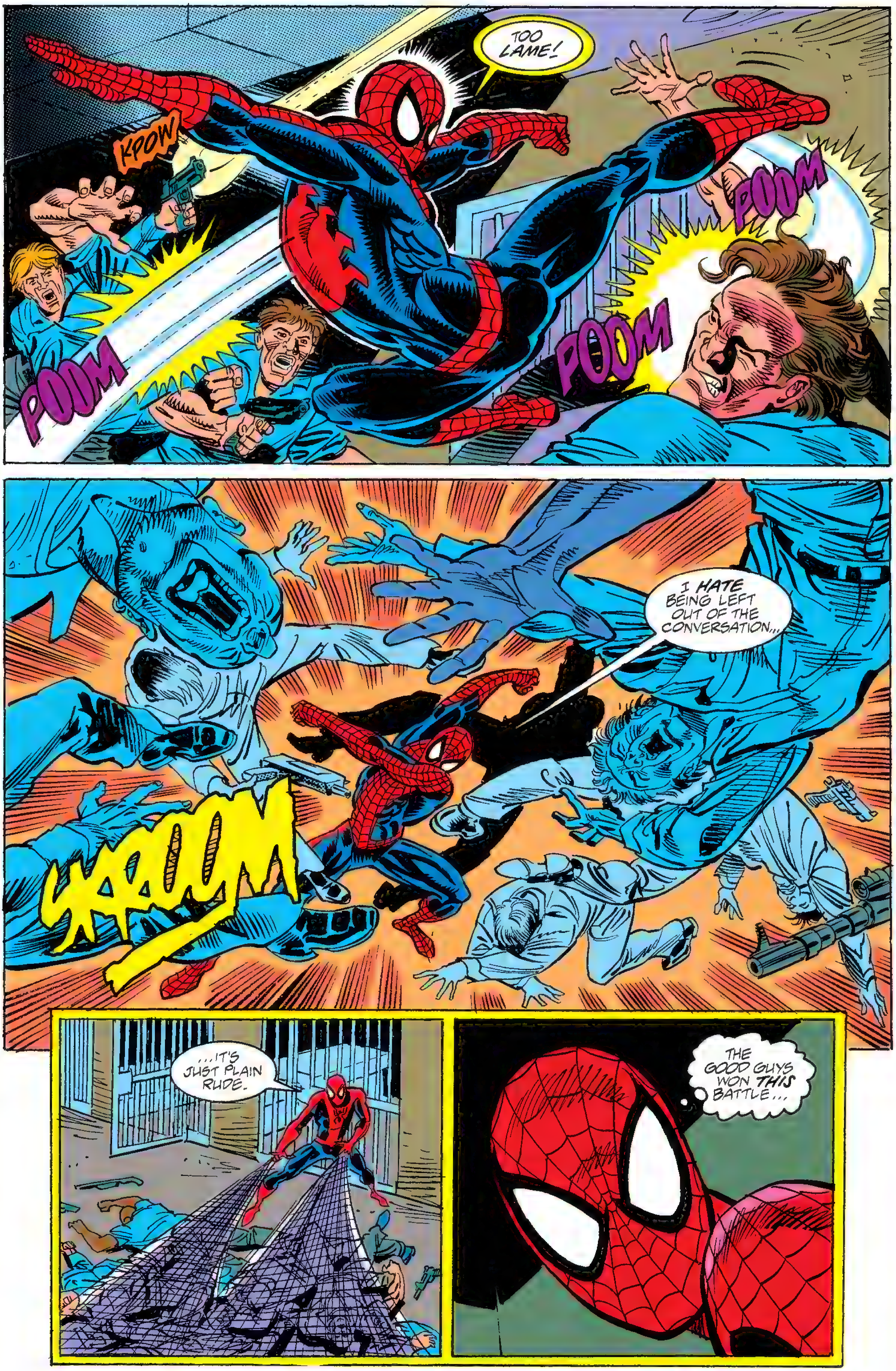

...TILL THE CAT-LADY SPRINGS!
POOT
EPPH
URRK
CARRION MOVES TO STRIKE, CAT--
--BEWARE...
MORBIUS, DON'T...
...CARRION'S FATAL TO THE TOUCH!
YEEARGH!

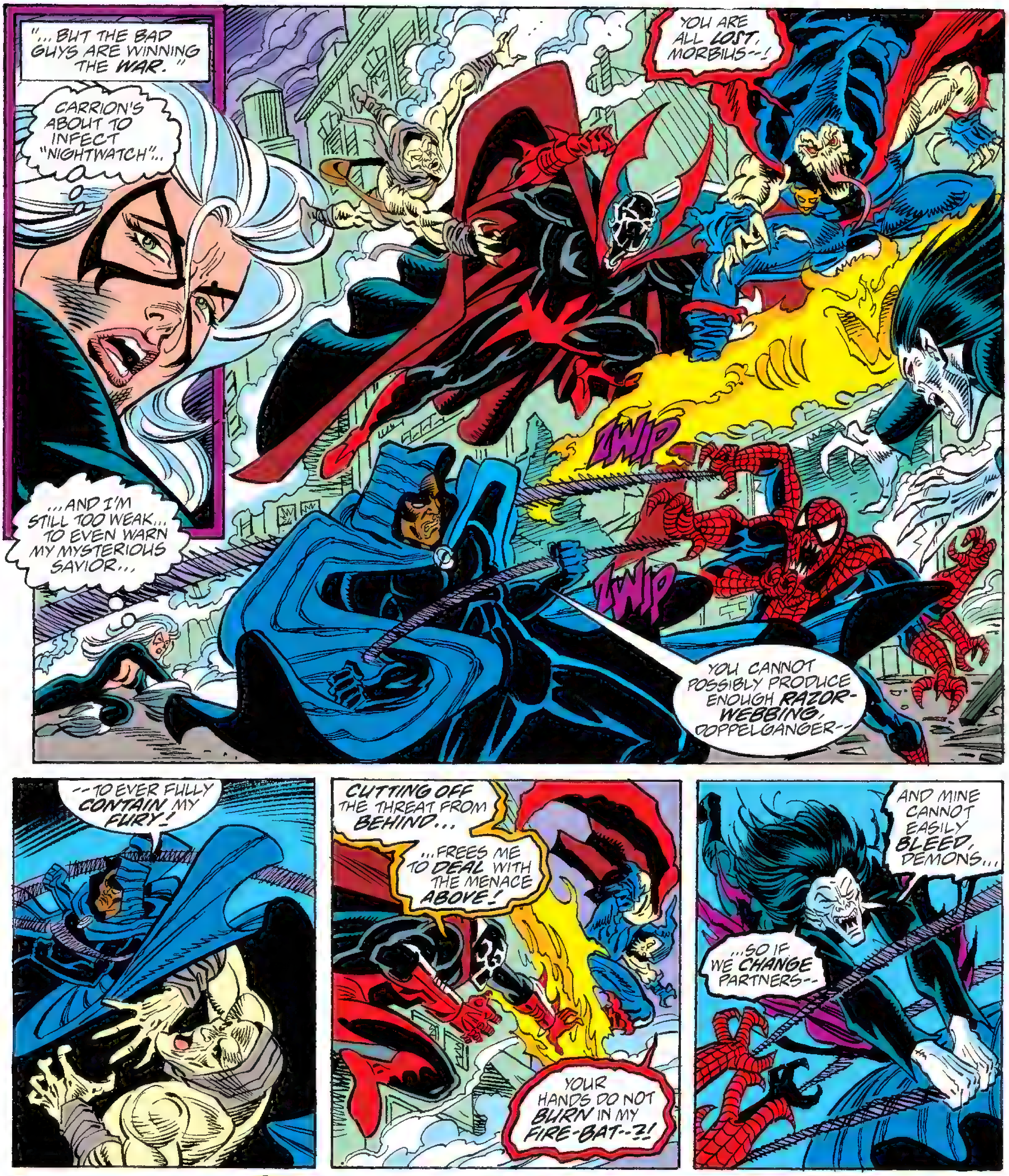

THE VAMPIRE IS IN PAIN, CAT...
...BUT HE STILL SURVIVES.
GET MORBIUS BACK UP TO SPEED FAST, CLOAK...
...I'LL KEEP THE BLOODHOUNDS AT BAY!
NOT FOR LONG, MORTAL...
KZZK
KZZK
PHOOT
AAAR!
...THESE HOUNDS ARE HUNGRY--
SKRK
URKK
--FOR CAT-BLOOD!
TOOM
KOOM
TOOM
ENOUGH...

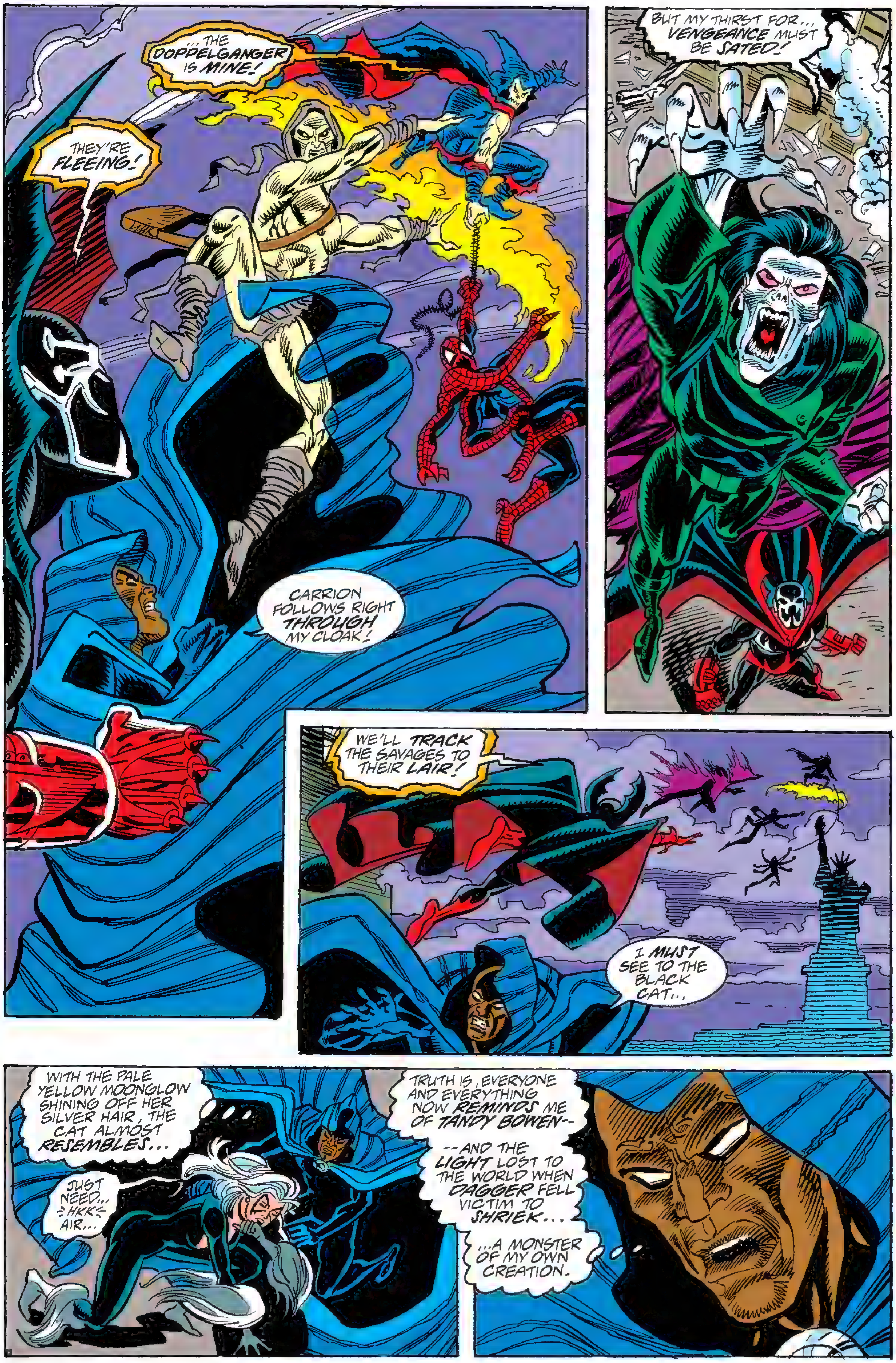

...DESPITE THE POTENTIAL DANGERS OF MY CURSED COSTUME--
--I CAN'T JUST STAND BY AND ALLOW A WOMAN TO BE BRUTALLY BEATEN TO DEATH!
UHNN...
WHO THE HE-- EAAK!
SLSH
NO MATTER, 'GOBLIN...
...THE BLACK CAT'S SACRIFICE SHALL NOT BE IN VAIN!
THE FELINE FEMALE WILL LIVE...
...BUT HER ALLIES ARE NOW OUT-NUMBERED.
GRR
WHIP
FSSH
SO NIGHTWATCH CHANGES ALL THE ODDS!

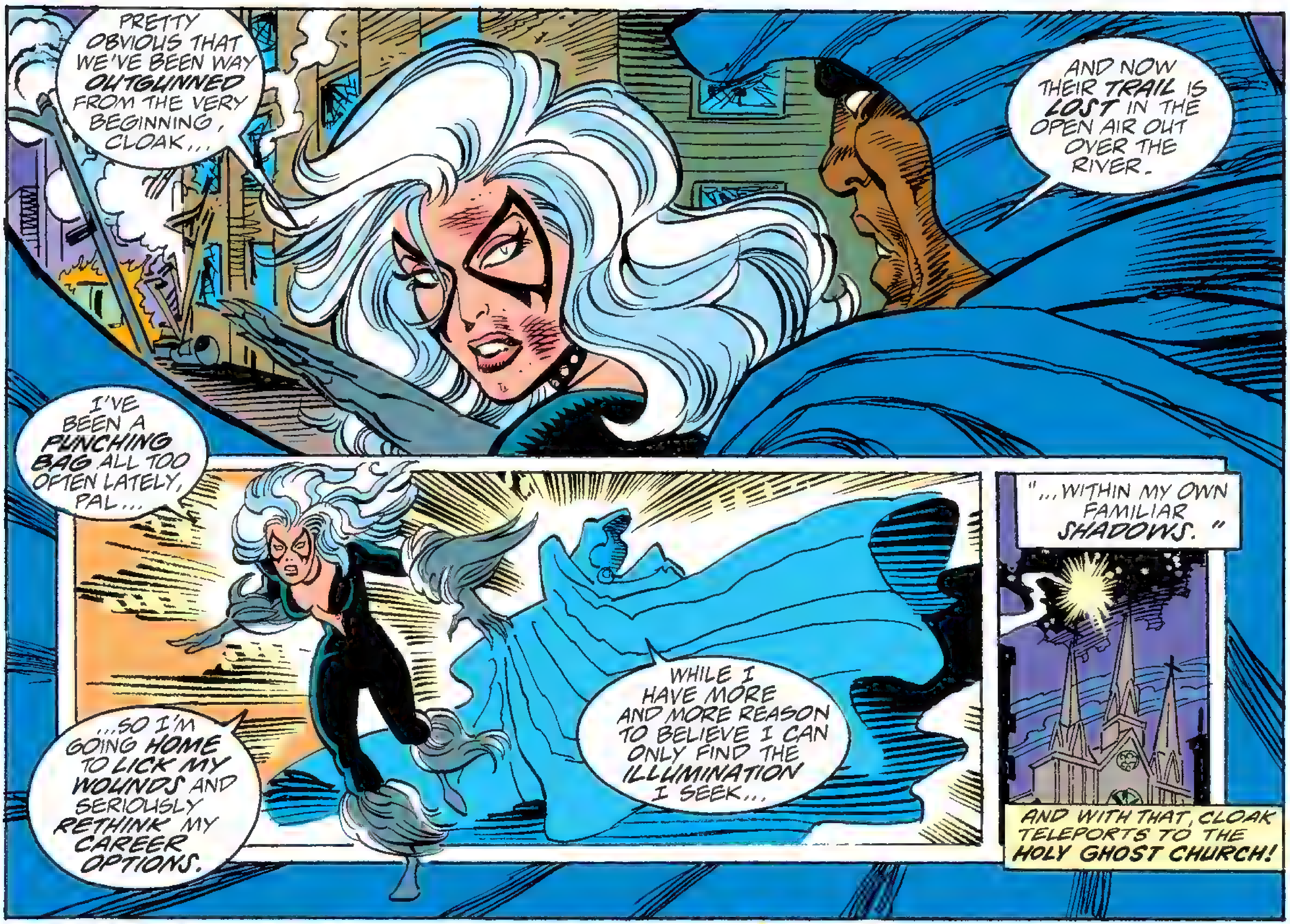
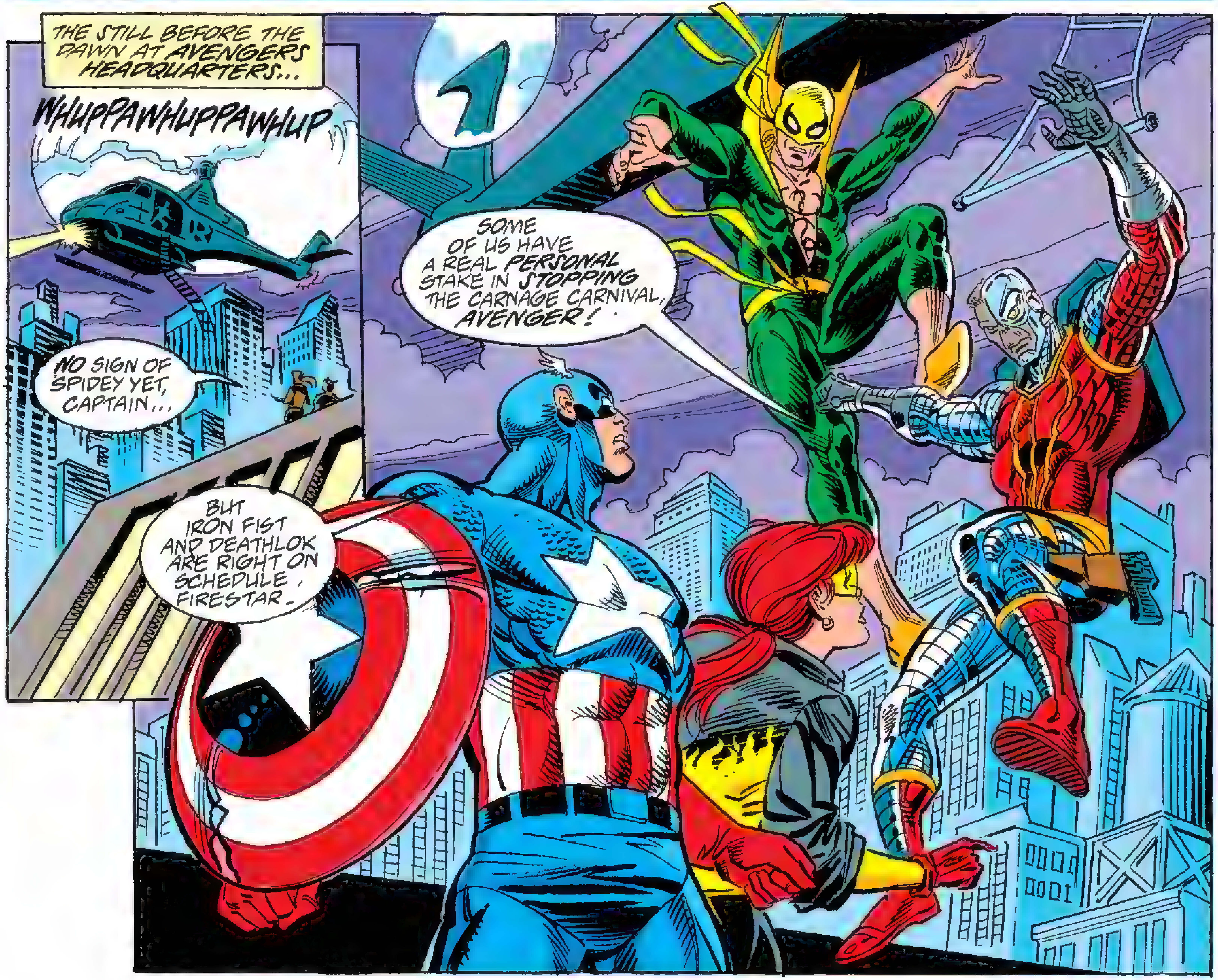

CONVERGING OUTSIDE THE BESIEGED POLICE STATION...
POLICE
--AND EVACUATE THE BUILDING IMMEDIATELY!
THOSE CARNAGE CREEPS DID SOME MAJOR STRUCTURAL DAMAGE!
THEM SUPER-FREAKS WERE JUST PASSING THROUGH...
...NEW YORK'S FINEST RALLY AROUND THEIR OWN.
POLICE
RELEASE THE HOSTAGES--
"...BUT THE CHAOS LEFT THE INMATES IN CHARGE OF THE ASYLUM!"
COPS CAN'T DO NOTHING WHILE WE STILL GOT THEIR LAST FEW BUDDIES BEHIND BARS HERE, GANG!
THEN WHAT'S GOING DOWN OUT IN THE HALL, HAWK?!
BOYS PROBABLY FOUND ANOTHER STRAY DESK SERGEANT HIDING UNDER ANOTHER DESK.
BUT IT SOUNDS LIKE THE ACTION'S...
...OVER?!
WHAT THE #@$%?
GET BACK INSIDE THE CELL BLOCK AND GRAB THE HOSTAGES BEFORE--

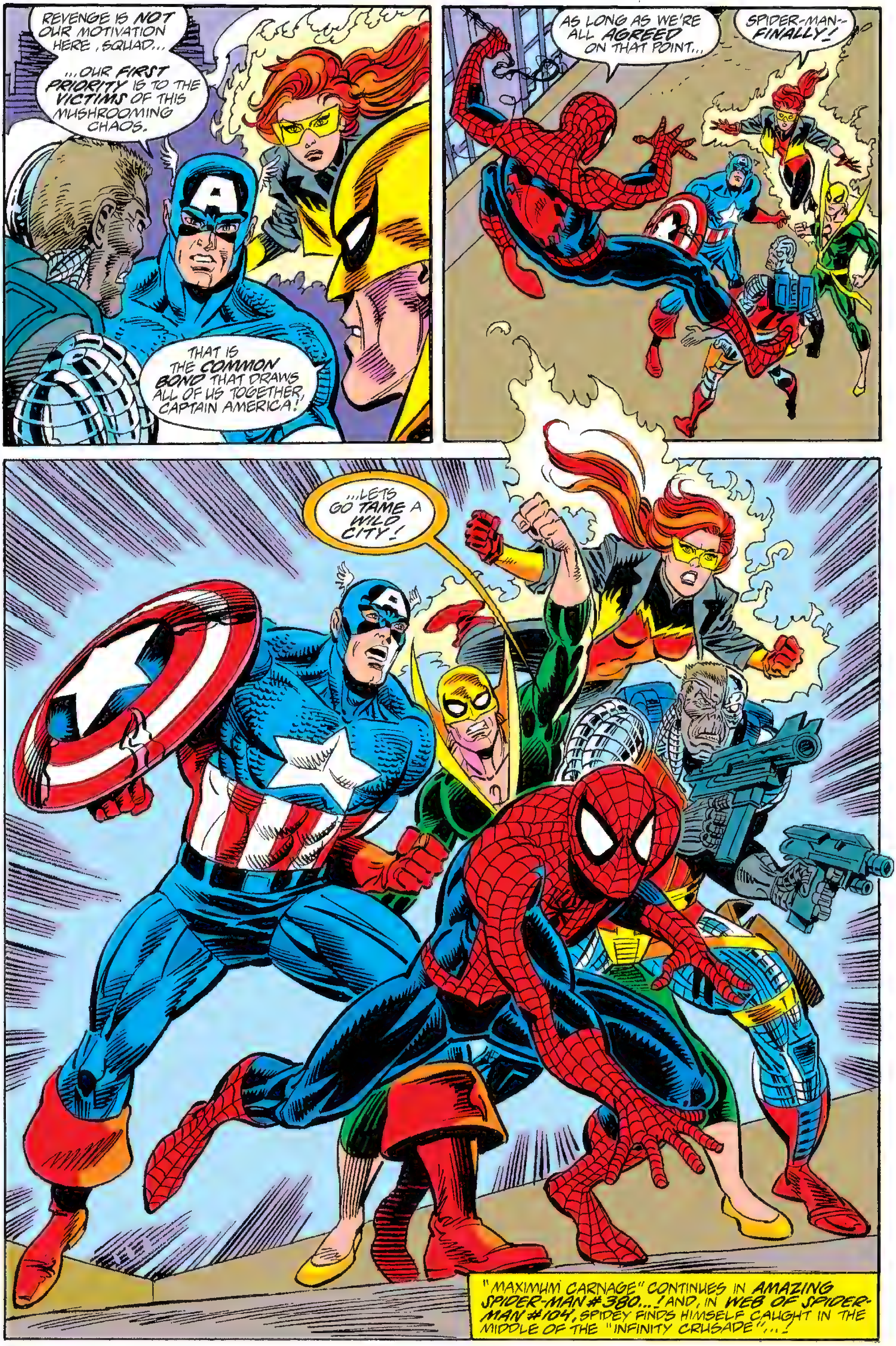

SPIDER-MAN?!
BEFORE SPIDER-MAN WHAT, HAWK?
BEFORE SPIDER-MAN SNEAKS IN THROUGH THE VENTILATION SYSTEM AND CUTS YOU OFF FROM HELPLESS VICTIMS WITH A WALL OF WEBBING?
TOO LATE.
KPOW
KPOW
KPOW
OR BEFORE SPIDER-MAN FINISHES WHAT HE STARTED DOWN THE HALL?
KPOW
POOT
POOM
KPOW
POOM


TOO LAME!
KPOW
POOM
POOM
POOM
I HATE BEING LEFT OUT OF THE CONVERSATION...
KRAOOM
...IT'S JUST PLAIN RUDE.
THE GOOD GUYS WON THIS BATTLE...


"...BUT THE BAD GUYS ARE WINNING THE *WAR*."
CARRION'S ABOUT TO INFECT "NIGHTWATCH"...
YOU ARE ALL *LOST*, MORBIUS--!
...AND I'M STILL TOO WEAK... TO EVEN WARN MY MYSTERIOUS SAVIOR...
ZWIP
ZWIP
YOU CANNOT POSSIBLY PRODUCE ENOUGH *RAZOR-WEBBING*, DOPPELGANGER--
--TO EVER FULLY *CONTAIN* MY *FURY*!
CUTTING OFF THE THREAT FROM *BEHIND*...
...FREES ME TO *DEAL* WITH THE MENACE *ABOVE*!
YOUR HANDS DO NOT *BURN* IN MY *FIRE-BAT*--?!
AND MINE CANNOT EASILY *BLEED* DEMONS...
...SO IF WE *CHANGE* PARTNERS--
HRGG
NO...
SNK
FSSSS


...THE DOPPELGANGER IS MINE!
THEY'RE FLEEING!
CARRION FOLLOWS RIGHT THROUGH MY CLOAK!
BUT MY THIRST FOR... VENGEANCE MUST BE SATED!
WE'LL TRACK THE SAVAGES TO THEIR LAIR!
I MUST SEE TO THE BLACK CAT...
WITH THE PALE YELLOW MOONGLOW SHINING OFF HER SILVER HAIR, THE CAT ALMOST RESEMBLES...
JUST NEED... HKK AIR...
TRUTH IS, EVERYONE AND EVERYTHING NOW REMINDS ME OF TANDY BOWEN--
--AND THE LIGHT LOST TO THE WORLD WHEN DAGGER FELL VICTIM TO SHRIEK...
...A MONSTER OF MY OWN CREATION.

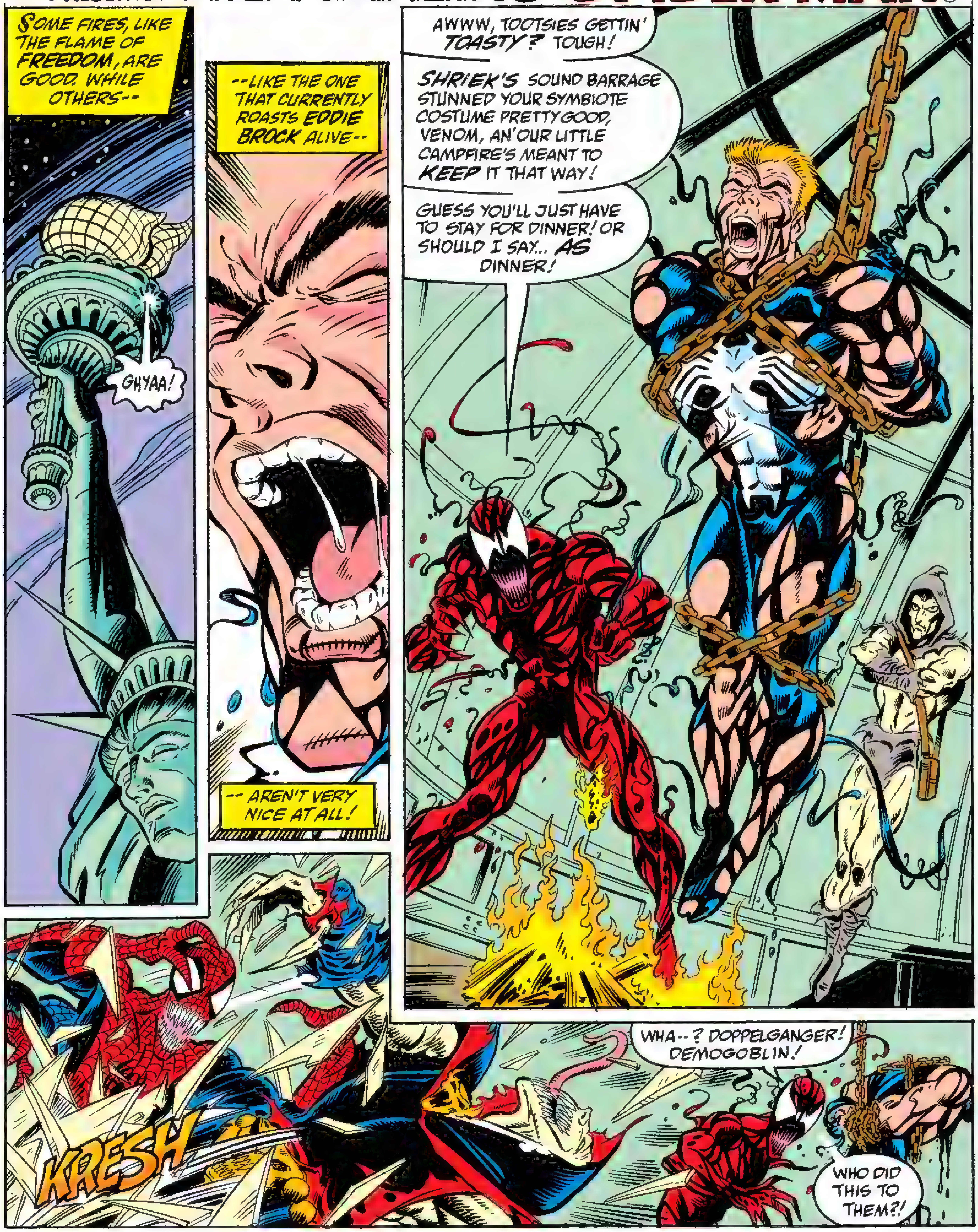

PRETTY OBVIOUS THAT WE'VE BEEN WAY **OUTGUNNED** FROM THE VERY BEGINNING, CLOAK...
AND NOW THEIR **TRAIL** IS **LOST** IN THE OPEN AIR OUT OVER THE RIVER.
I'VE BEEN A **PUNCHING BAG** ALL TOO OFTEN LATELY, PAL...
...SO I'M GOING **HOME** TO **LICK MY WOUNDS** AND SERIOUSLY **RETHINK** MY **CAREER OPTIONS.**
WHILE I HAVE MORE AND MORE REASON TO BELIEVE I CAN ONLY FIND THE **ILLUMINATION** I SEEK...
"...WITHIN MY OWN FAMILIAR **SHADOWS.**"
AND WITH THAT, CLOAK TELEPORTS TO THE **HOLY GHOST CHURCH!**

THE STILL BEFORE THE DAWN AT **AVENGERS HEADQUARTERS...**
WHUPPAWHUPPAWHUP
NO SIGN OF SPIDEY YET, CAPTAIN...
BUT IRON FIST AND DEATHLOK ARE RIGHT ON SCHEDULE, FIRESTAR.
SOME OF US HAVE A REAL **PERSONAL** STAKE IN **STOPPING** THE CARNAGE CARNIVAL, **AVENGER!**


REVENGE IS NOT OUR MOTIVATION HERE, SQUAD...
...OUR FIRST PRIORITY IS TO THE VICTIMS OF THIS MUSHROOMING CHAOS.
THAT IS THE COMMON BOND THAT DRAWS ALL OF US TOGETHER, CAPTAIN AMERICA!
AS LONG AS WE'RE ALL AGREED ON THAT POINT...
SPIDER-MAN-- FINALLY!
...LETS GO TAME A WILD CITY!
"MAXIMUM CARNAGE" CONTINUES IN AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #380...! AND, IN WEB OF SPIDER-MAN #104, SPIDEY FINDS HIMSELF CAUGHT IN THE MIDDLE OF THE "INFINITY CRUSADE"...!

MARVEL COMICS
MAXIMUM CARNAGE™
PART 11 OF 14
the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN®
© 1993 MARVEL ENT. GROUP, INC.
$1.25 US
$1.60 CAN
380
AUG
UK 95p
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
THINGS LOOK BLEAK FOR VENOM™ AND HIS PALS--
--WHICH IS FINE BY CARNAGE™!!

BITTEN BY A RADIOACTIVE SPIDER, STUDENT ***PETER PARKER*** *GAINED THE PROPORTIONATE STRENGTH AND AGILITY OF AN ARACHNID! ARMED WITH HIS WONDROUS WEB-SHOOTERS, THE RELUCTANT SUPER HERO STRUGGLES WITH SINISTER SUPER-VILLAINS, MAKING ENDS MEET, AND MAINTAINING SOME SEMBLANCE OF A NORMAL LIFE!*

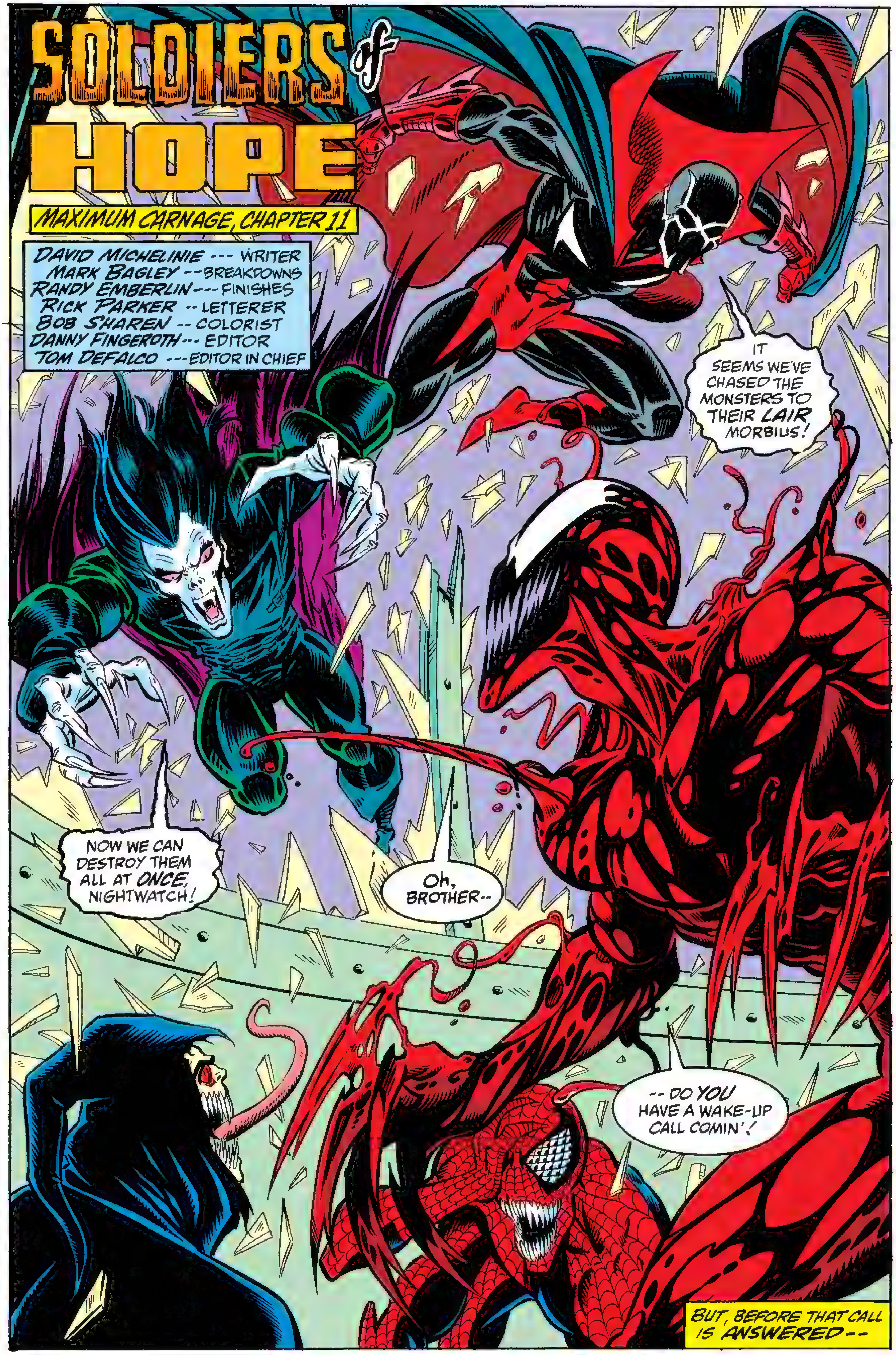
Stan Lee PRESENTS: THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN®

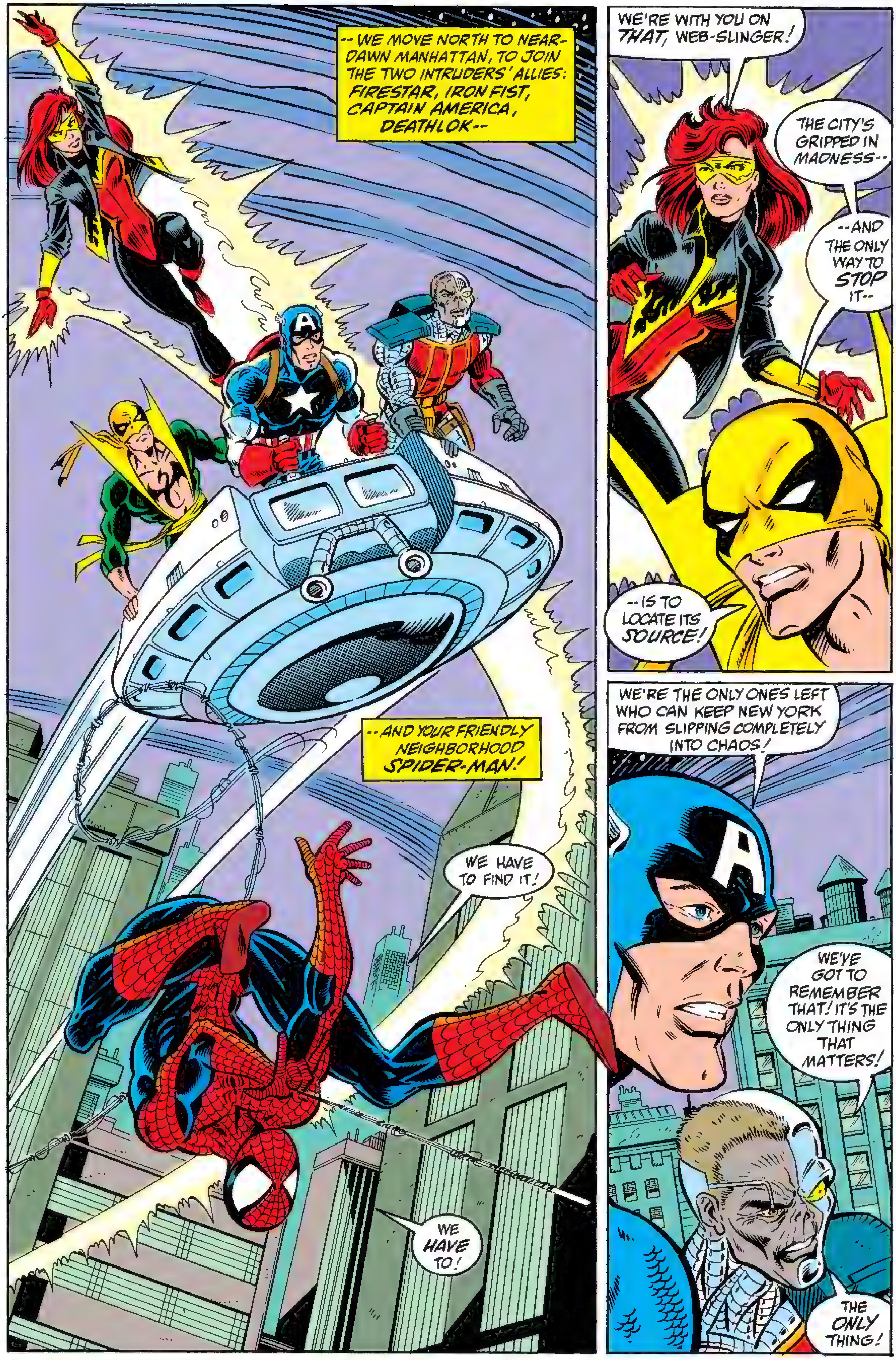

SOME FIRES, LIKE THE FLAME OF FREEDOM, ARE GOOD, WHILE OTHERS--
GHYAA!
--LIKE THE ONE THAT CURRENTLY ROASTS EDDIE BROCK ALIVE--
-- AREN'T VERY NICE AT ALL!
AWWW, TOOTSIES GETTIN' TOASTY? TOUGH!
SHRIEK'S SOUND BARRAGE STUNNED YOUR SYMBIOTE COSTUME PRETTY GOOD, VENOM, AN' OUR LITTLE CAMPFIRE'S MEANT TO KEEP IT THAT WAY!
GUESS YOU'LL JUST HAVE TO STAY FOR DINNER! OR SHOULD I SAY... AS DINNER!
KRESH
WHA--? DOPPELGANGER! DEMOGOBLIN!
WHO DID THIS TO THEM?!

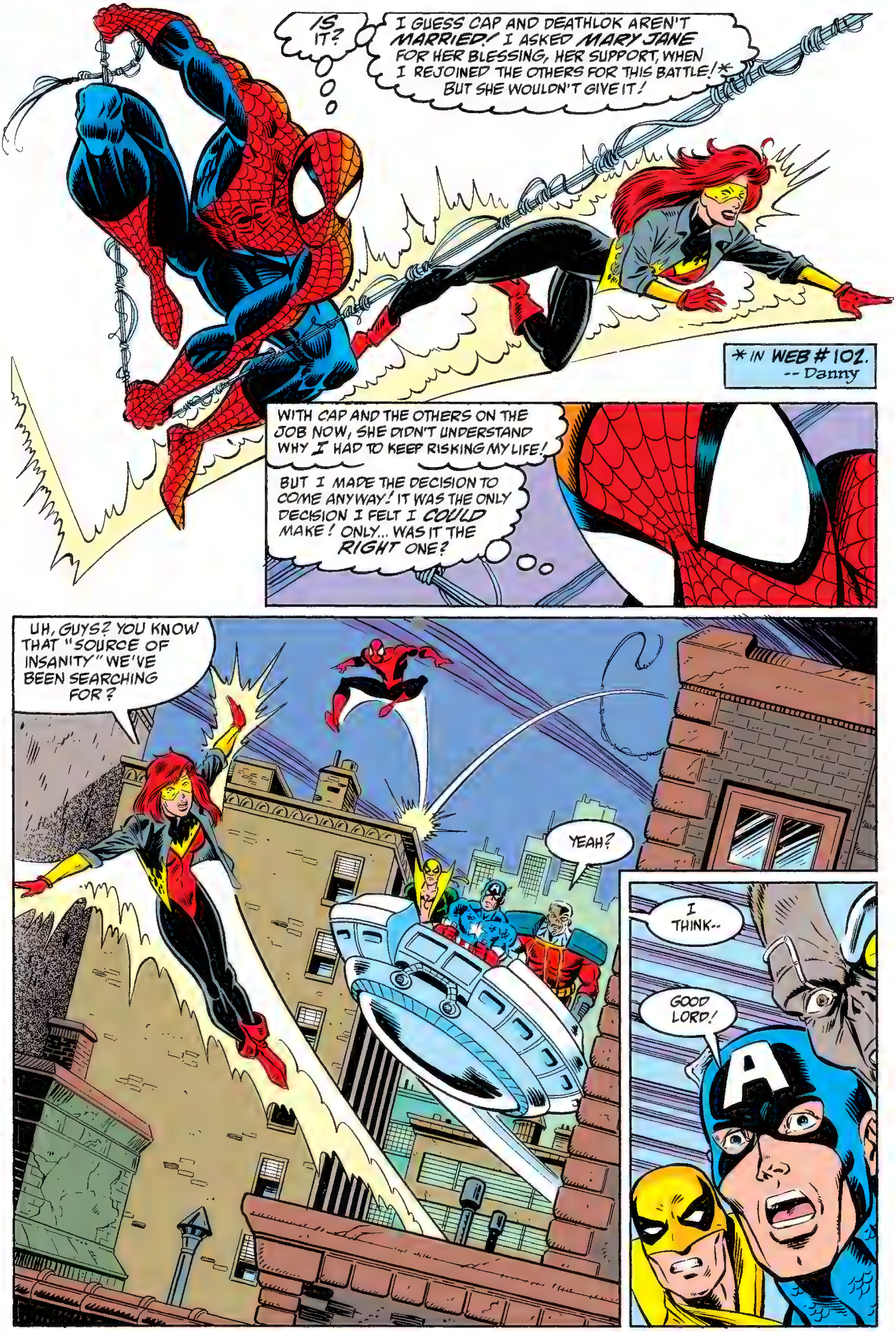
SOLDIERS of HOPE

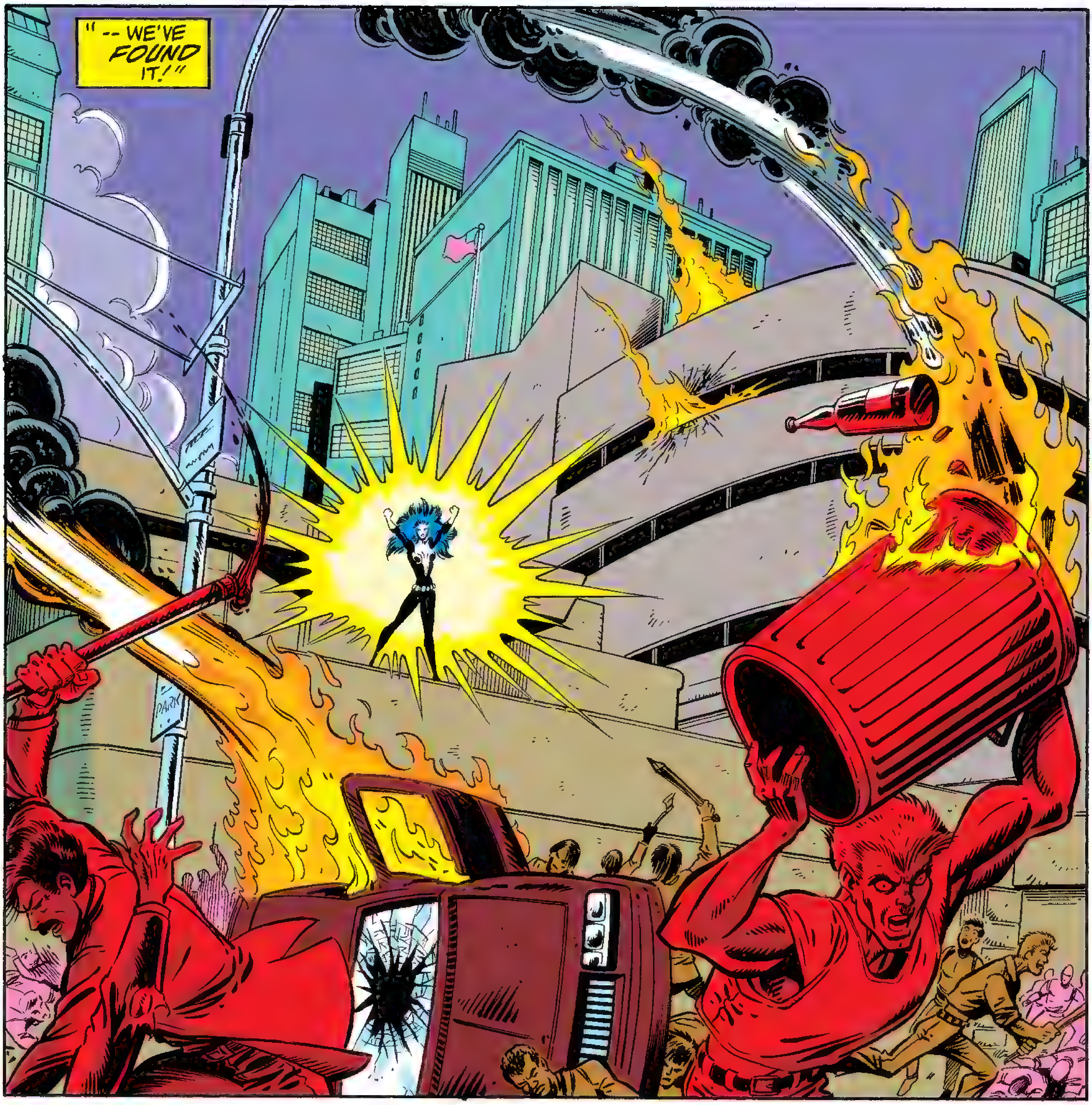
MAXIMUM CARNAGE, CHAPTER 11

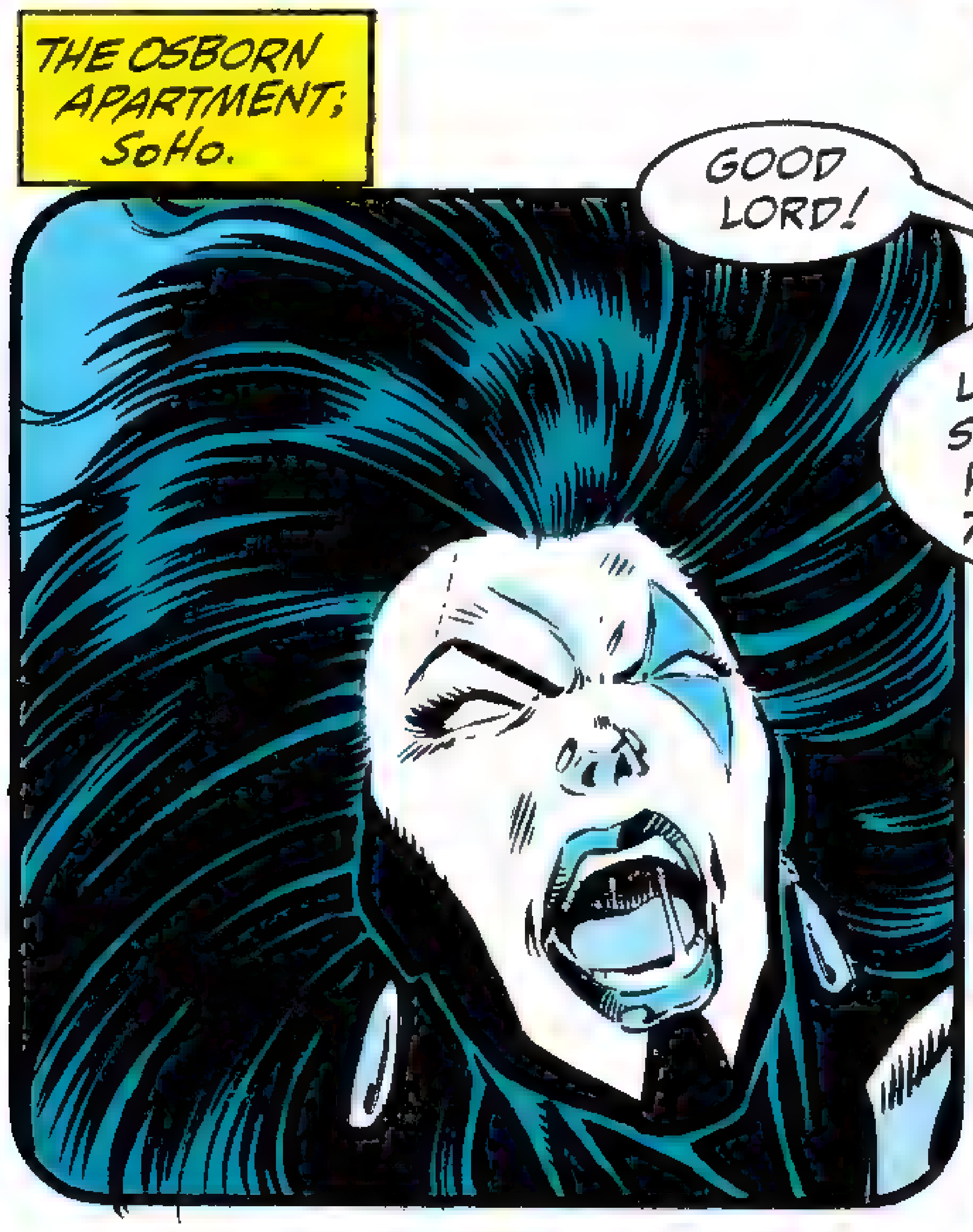
DAVID MICHELINIE --- WRITER
MARK BAGLEY --- BREAKDOWNS
RANDY EMBERLIN --- FINISHES
RICK PARKER -- LETTERER
BOB SHAREN -- COLORIST
DANNY FINGEROTH --- EDITOR
TOM DEFALCO --- EDITOR IN CHIEF

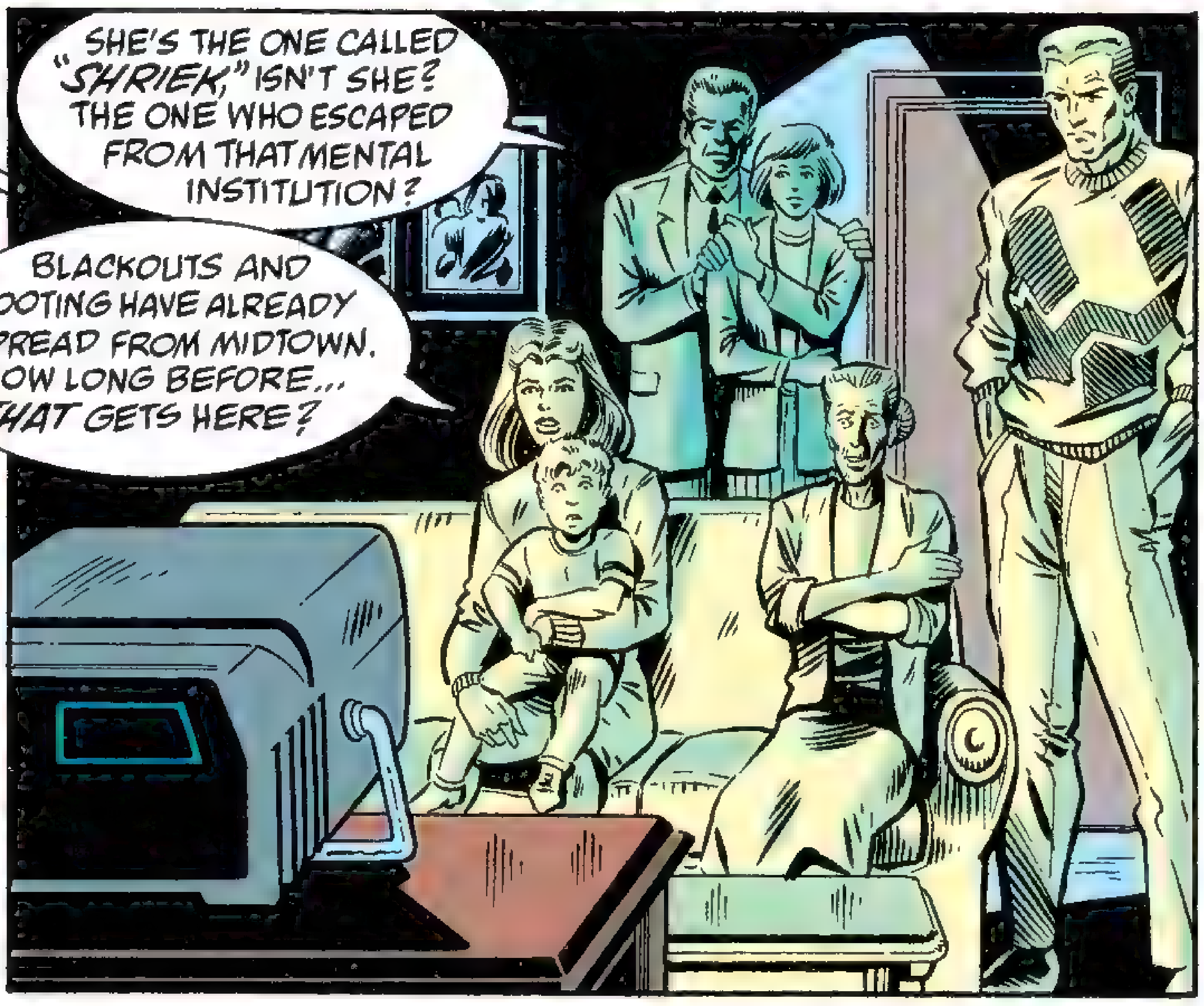

IT SEEMS WE'VE CHASED THE MONSTERS TO THEIR *LAIR*, MORBIUS!
NOW WE CAN DESTROY THEM ALL AT *ONCE*, NIGHTWATCH!
Oh, BROTHER--
-- DO *YOU* HAVE A WAKE-UP CALL COMIN'!
BUT, BEFORE THAT CALL IS *ANSWERED*--

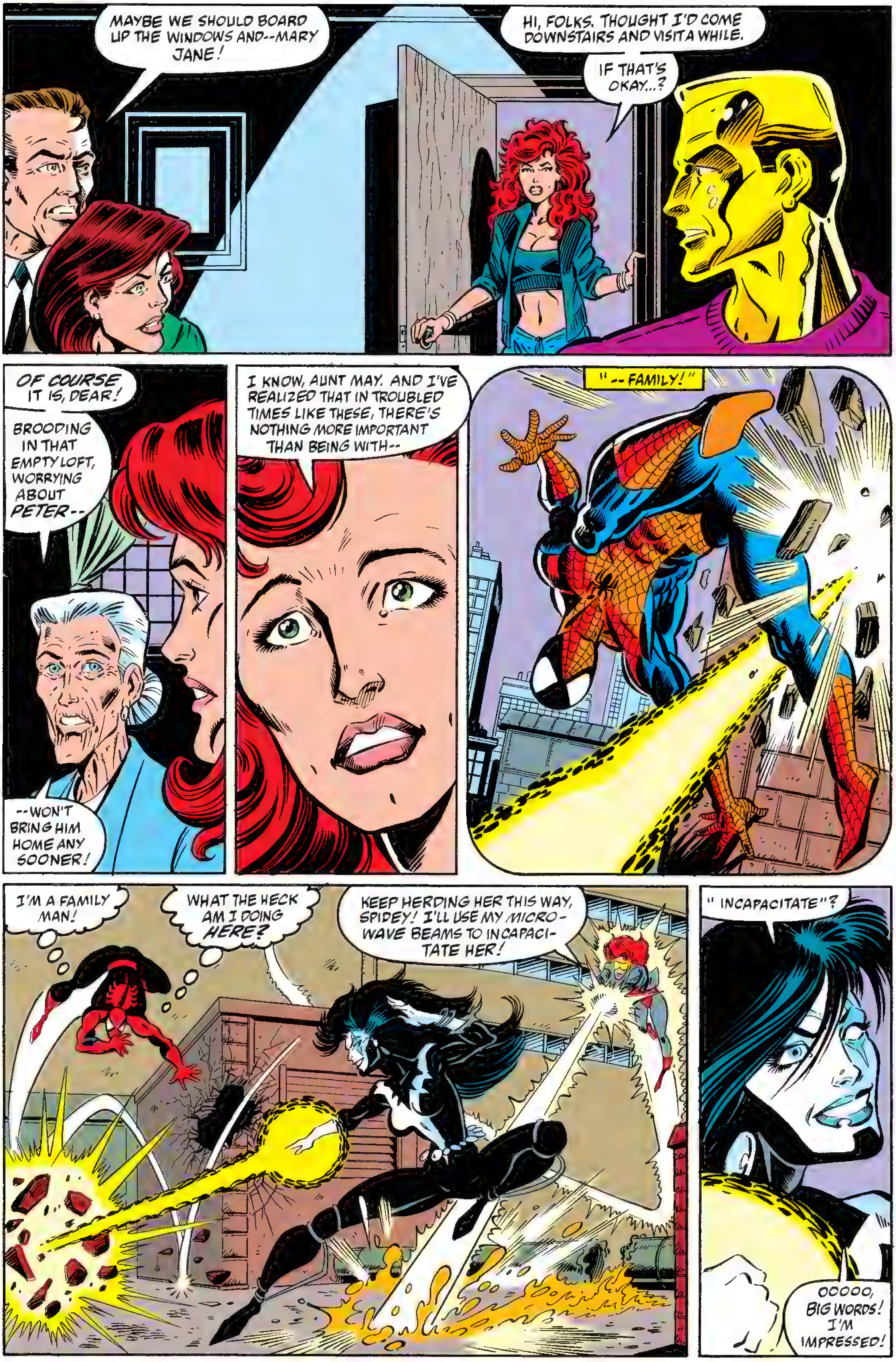

--WE MOVE NORTH TO NEAR-DAWN MANHATTAN, TO JOIN THE TWO INTRUDERS' ALLIES: FIRESTAR, IRON FIST, CAPTAIN AMERICA, DEATHLOK--
--AND YOUR FRIENDLY NEIGHBORHOOD SPIDER-MAN!
WE HAVE TO FIND IT!
WE HAVE TO!
WE'RE WITH YOU ON THAT, WEB-SLINGER!
THE CITY'S GRIPPED IN MADNESS--
--AND THE ONLY WAY TO STOP IT--
--IS TO LOCATE ITS SOURCE!
WE'RE THE ONLY ONES LEFT WHO CAN KEEP NEW YORK FROM SLIPPING COMPLETELY INTO CHAOS!
WE'VE GOT TO REMEMBER THAT! IT'S THE ONLY THING THAT MATTERS!
THE ONLY THING!

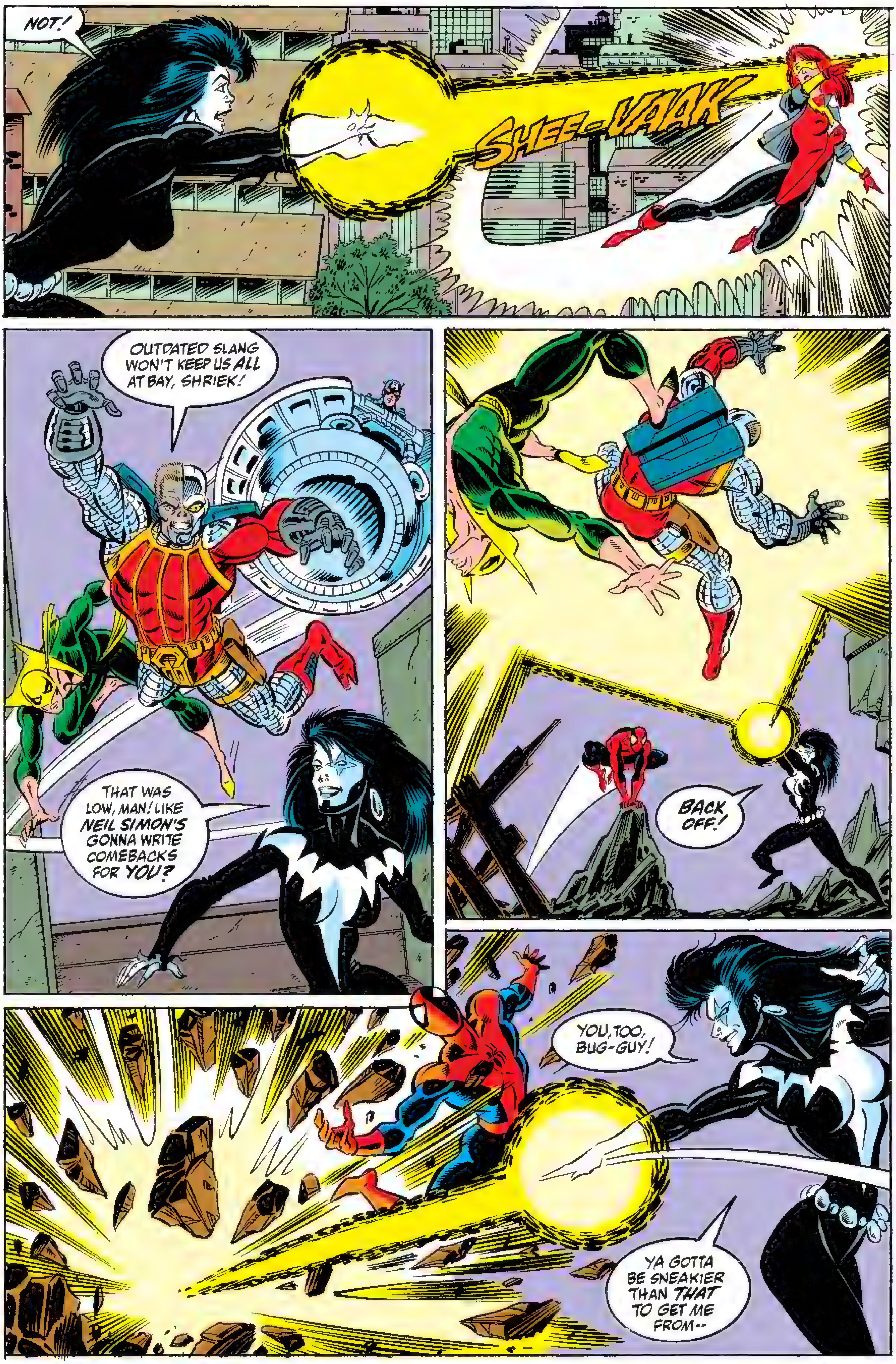

IS IT?
I GUESS CAP AND DEATHLOK AREN'T MARRIED! I ASKED MARY JANE FOR HER BLESSING, HER SUPPORT, WHEN I REJOINED THE OTHERS FOR THIS BATTLE!* BUT SHE WOULDN'T GIVE IT!
* IN WEB #102. -- Danny
WITH CAP AND THE OTHERS ON THE JOB NOW, SHE DIDN'T UNDERSTAND WHY I HAD TO KEEP RISKING MY LIFE!
BUT I MADE THE DECISION TO COME ANYWAY! IT WAS THE ONLY DECISION I FELT I COULD MAKE! ONLY... WAS IT THE RIGHT ONE?
UH, GUYS? YOU KNOW THAT "SOURCE OF INSANITY" WE'VE BEEN SEARCHING FOR?
YEAH?
I THINK...
GOOD LORD!

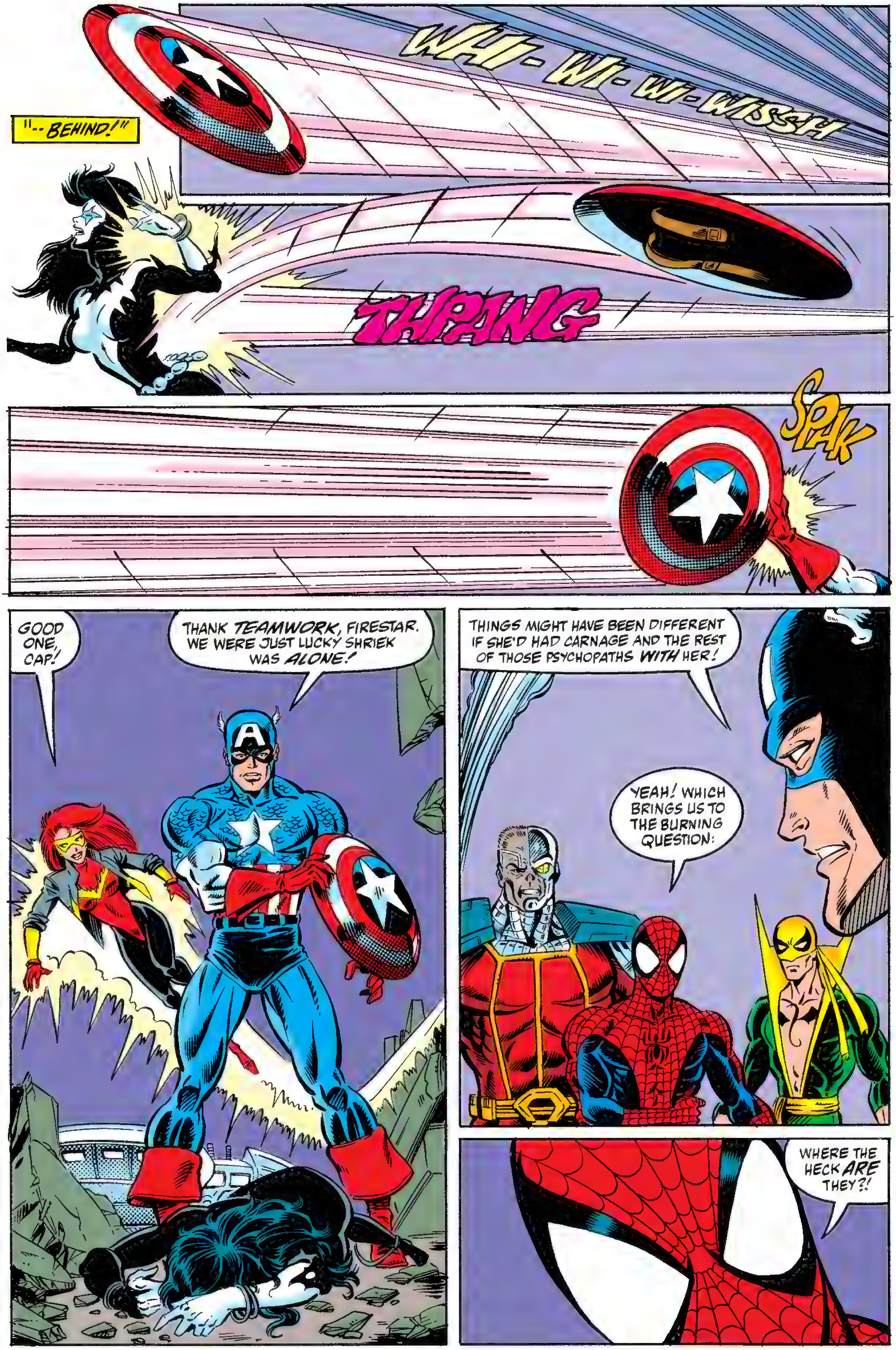

" -- WE'VE *FOUND* IT!"
PARK

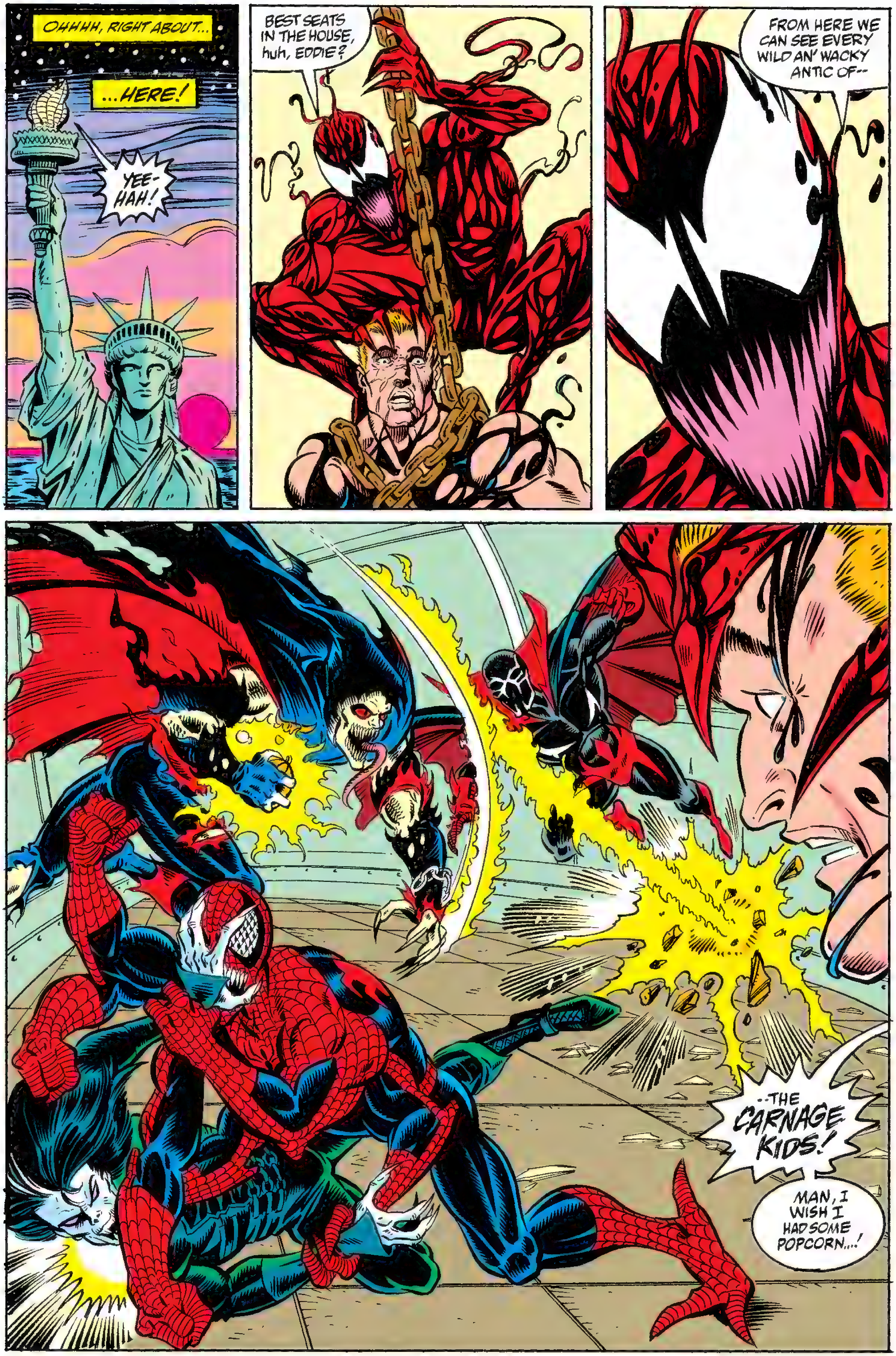

THE OSBORN APARTMENT; SoHo.
GOOD LORD!

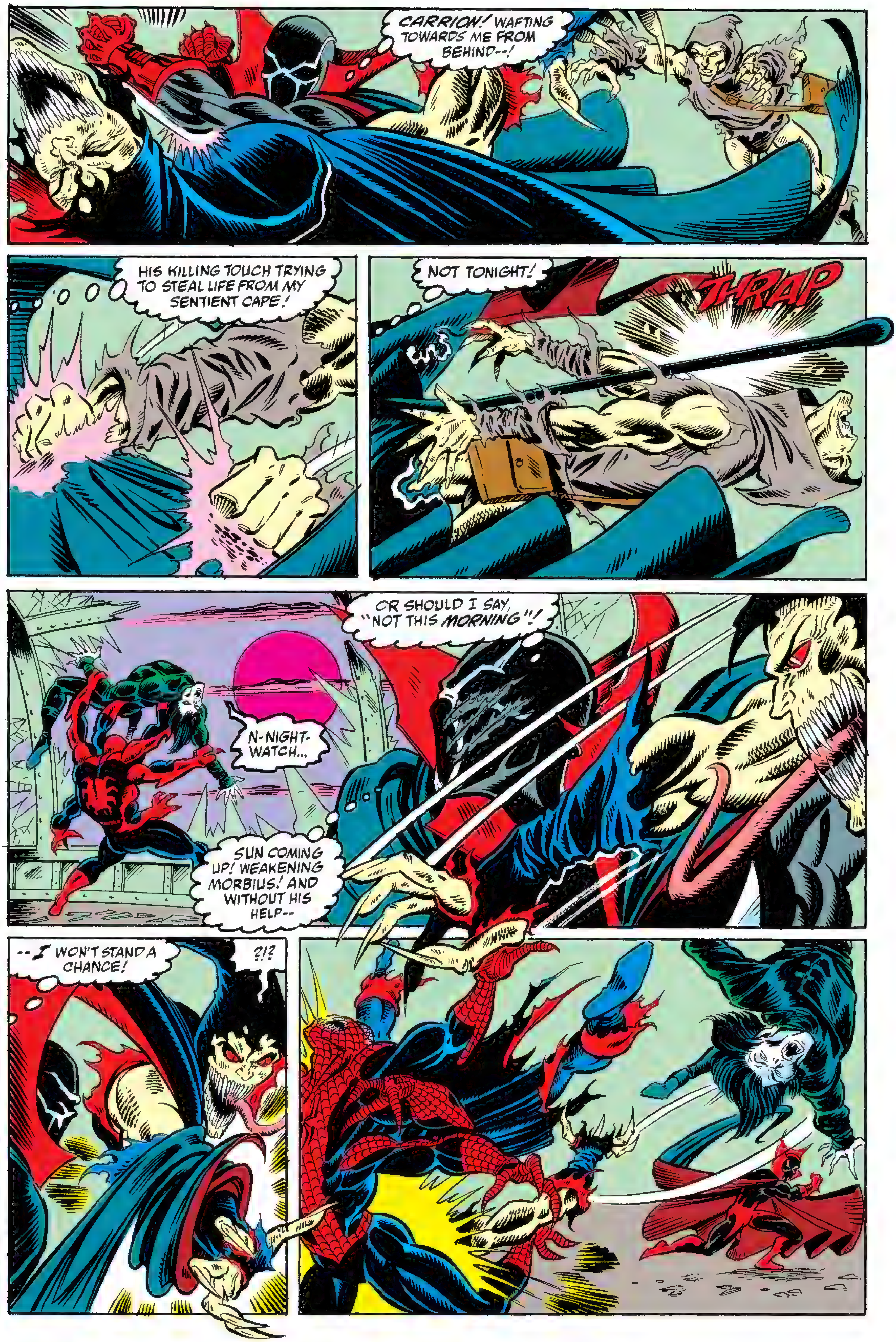

SHE'S THE ONE CALLED "*SHRIEK*," ISN'T SHE? THE ONE WHO ESCAPED FROM THAT MENTAL INSTITUTION?
BLACKOUTS AND LOOTING HAVE ALREADY SPREAD FROM MIDTOWN. HOW LONG BEFORE... *THAT* GETS HERE?

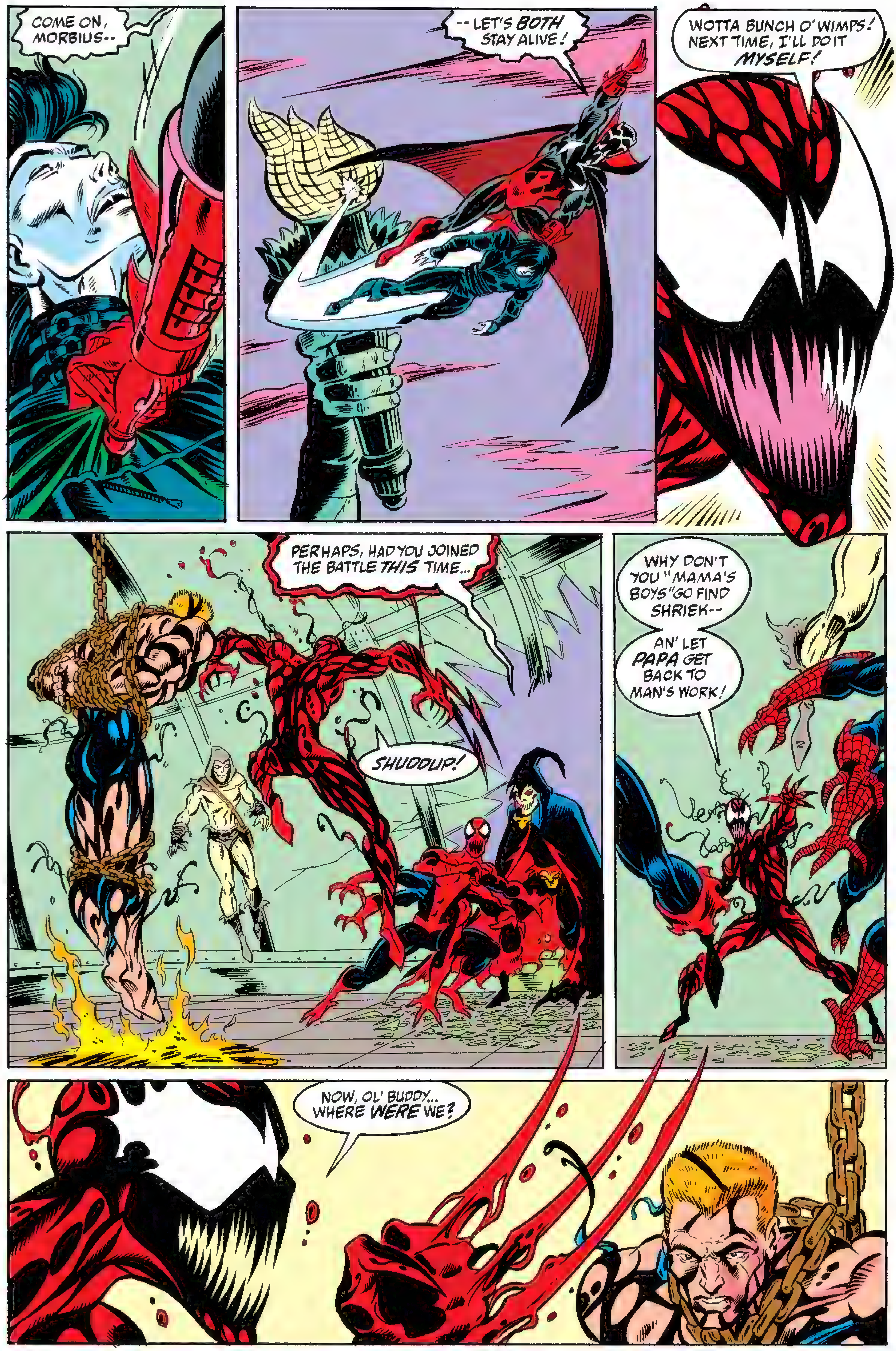

MAYBE WE SHOULD BOARD UP THE WINDOWS AND--MARY JANE!
HI, FOLKS. THOUGHT I'D COME DOWNSTAIRS AND VISIT A WHILE.
IF THAT'S OKAY...?
OF COURSE IT IS, DEAR!
BROODING IN THAT EMPTY LOFT, WORRYING ABOUT PETER--
--WON'T BRING HIM HOME ANY SOONER!
I KNOW, AUNT MAY. AND I'VE REALIZED THAT IN TROUBLED TIMES LIKE THESE, THERE'S NOTHING MORE IMPORTANT THAN BEING WITH--
"--FAMILY!"
I'M A FAMILY MAN!
WHAT THE HECK AM I DOING HERE?
KEEP HERDING HER THIS WAY, SPIDEY! I'LL USE MY MICRO-WAVE BEAMS TO INCAPACITATE HER!
"INCAPACITATE"?
OOOOO, BIG WORDS! I'M IMPRESSED!

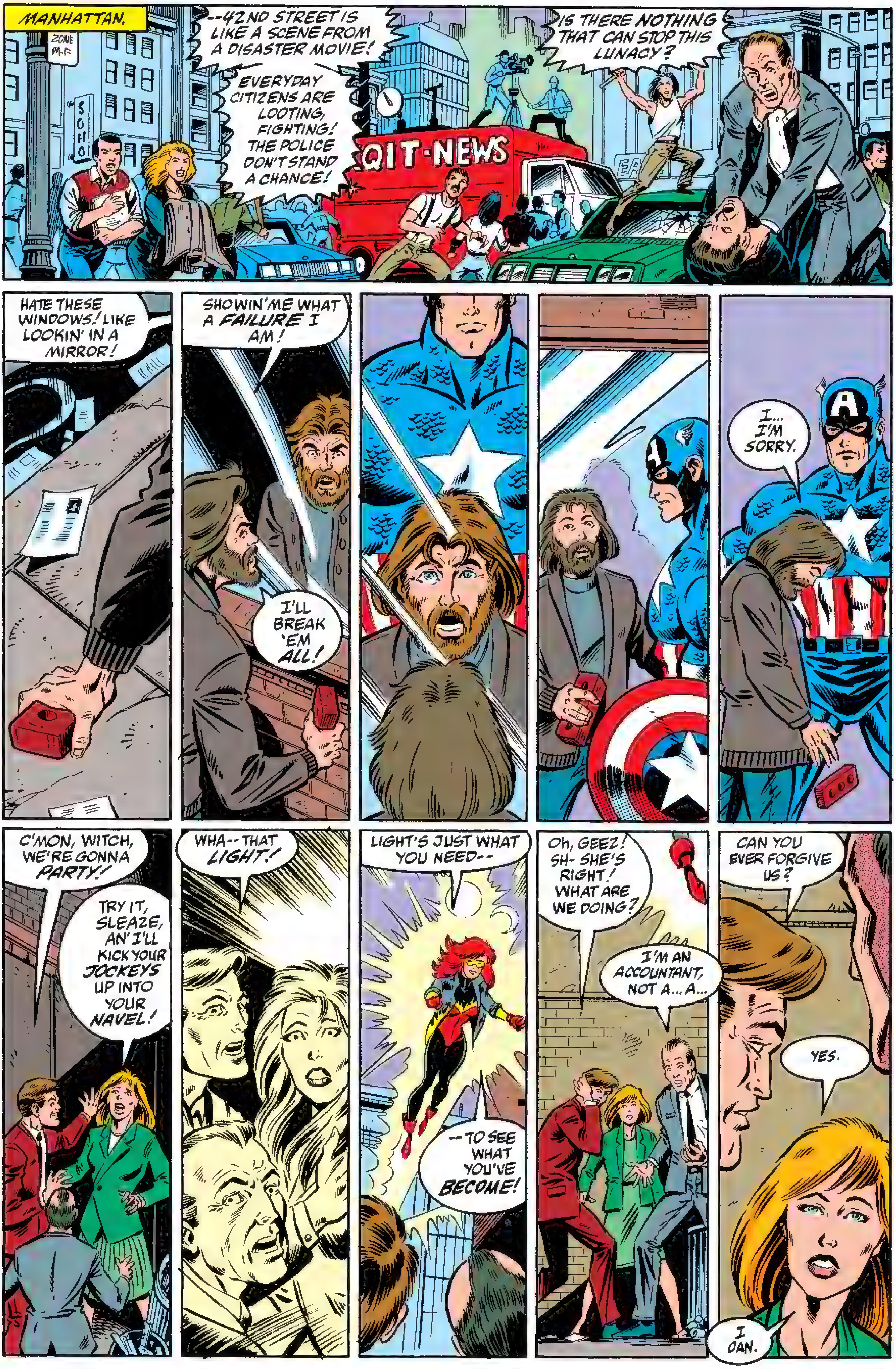

NOT!
SHEE-VAAK
OUTDATED SLANG WON'T KEEP US *ALL* AT BAY, SHRIEK!
THAT WAS LOW, MAN! LIKE *NEIL SIMON'S* GONNA WRITE COMEBACKS FOR *YOU?*
BACK OFF!
YOU, TOO, BUG-GUY!
YA GOTTA BE SNEAKIER THAN *THAT* TO GET ME FROM--

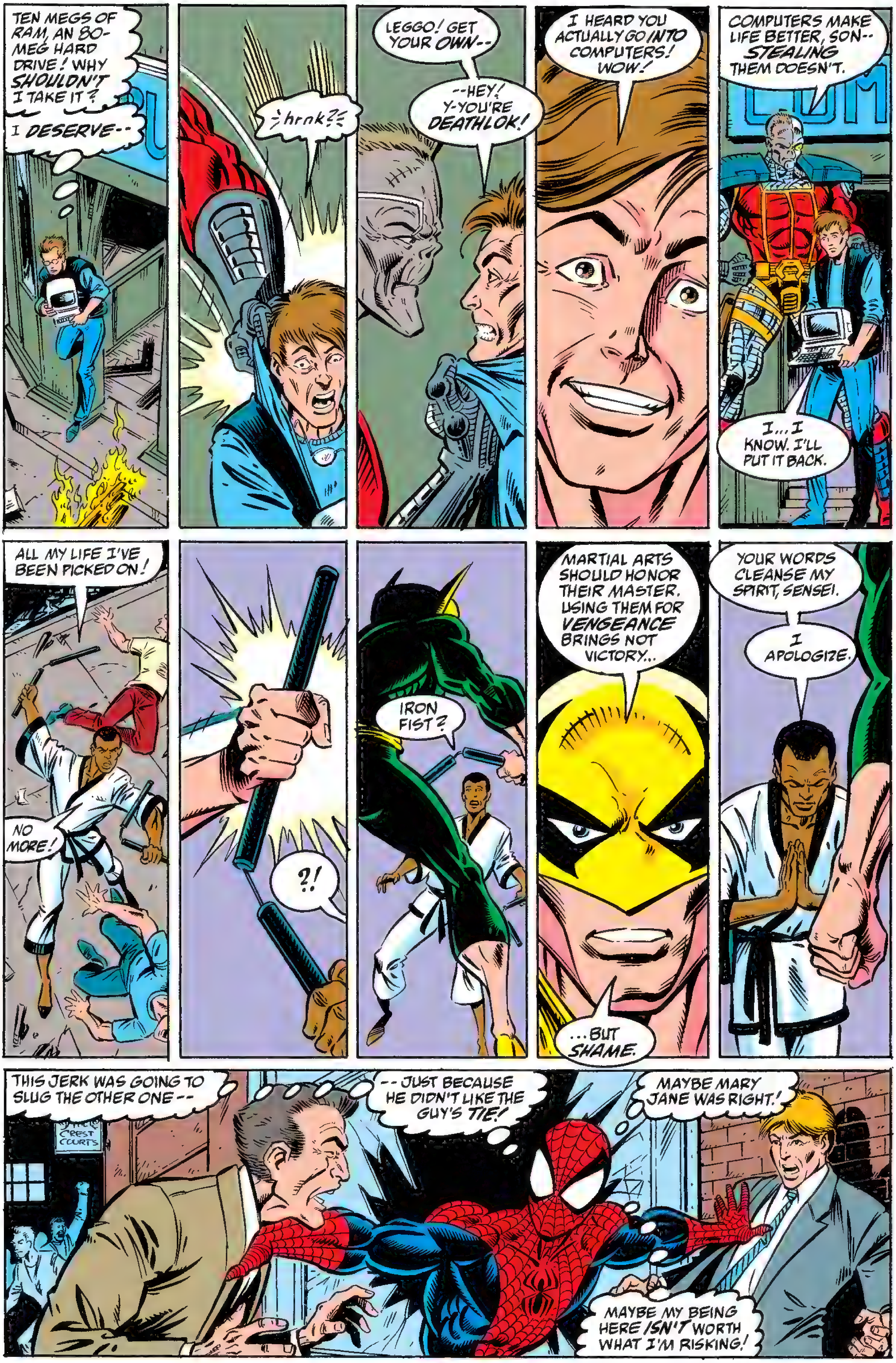

"-- BEHIND!"
WHAI-WI-WI-WISSH
THPANG
SPAK
GOOD ONE, CAP!
THANK *TEAMWORK*, FIRESTAR. WE WERE JUST LUCKY SHRIEK WAS *ALONE!*
THINGS MIGHT HAVE BEEN DIFFERENT IF SHE'D HAD CARNAGE AND THE REST OF THOSE PSYCHOPATHS *WITH* HER!
YEAH! WHICH BRINGS US TO THE BURNING QUESTION:
WHERE THE HECK *ARE* THEY?!

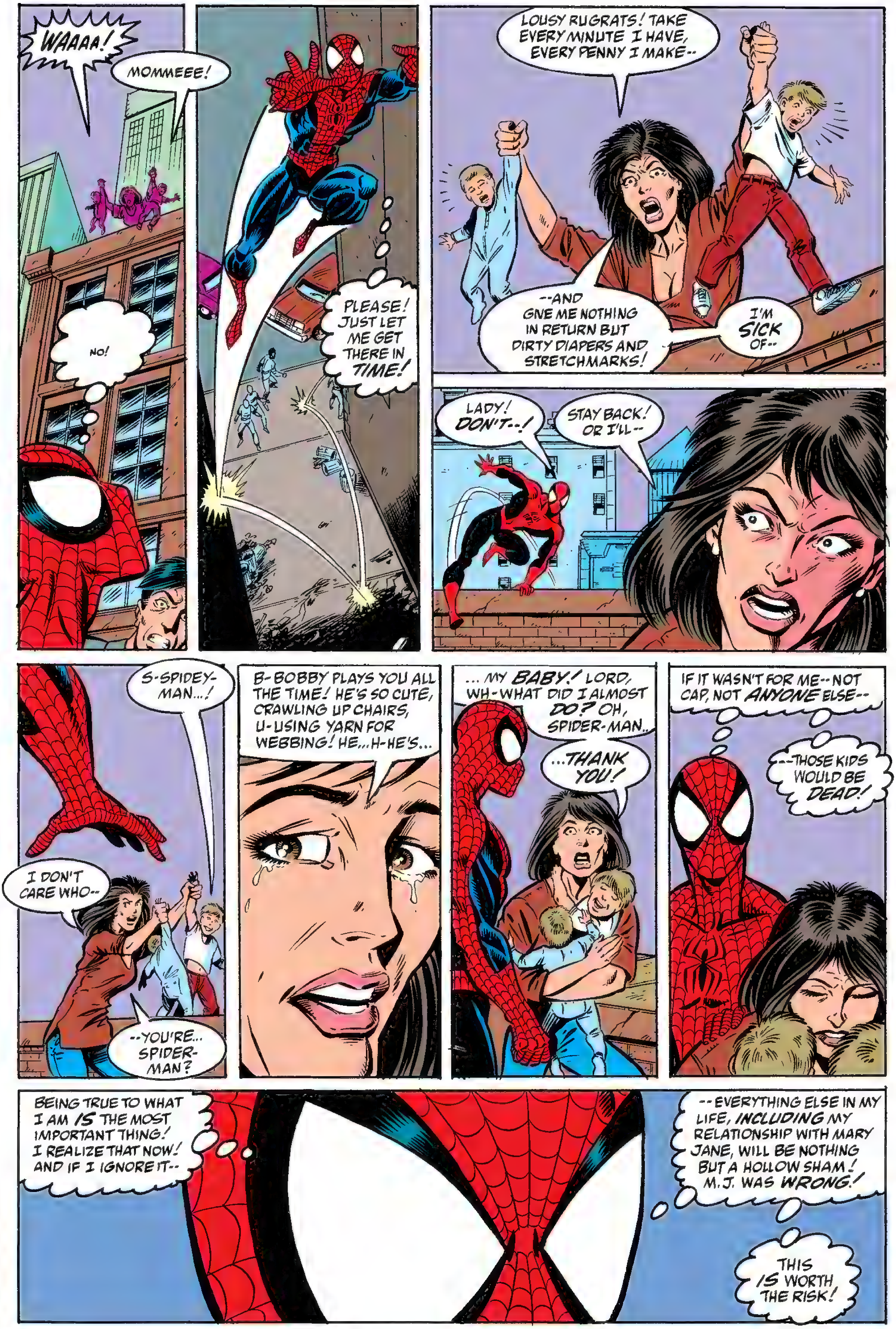

OHHHH, RIGHT ABOUT...
...HERE!
YEE-HAH!
BEST SEATS IN THE HOUSE, huh, EDDIE?
FROM HERE WE CAN SEE EVERY WILD AN' WACKY ANTIC OF--
--THE CARNAGE KIDS!
MAN, I WISH I HAD SOME POPCORN...!

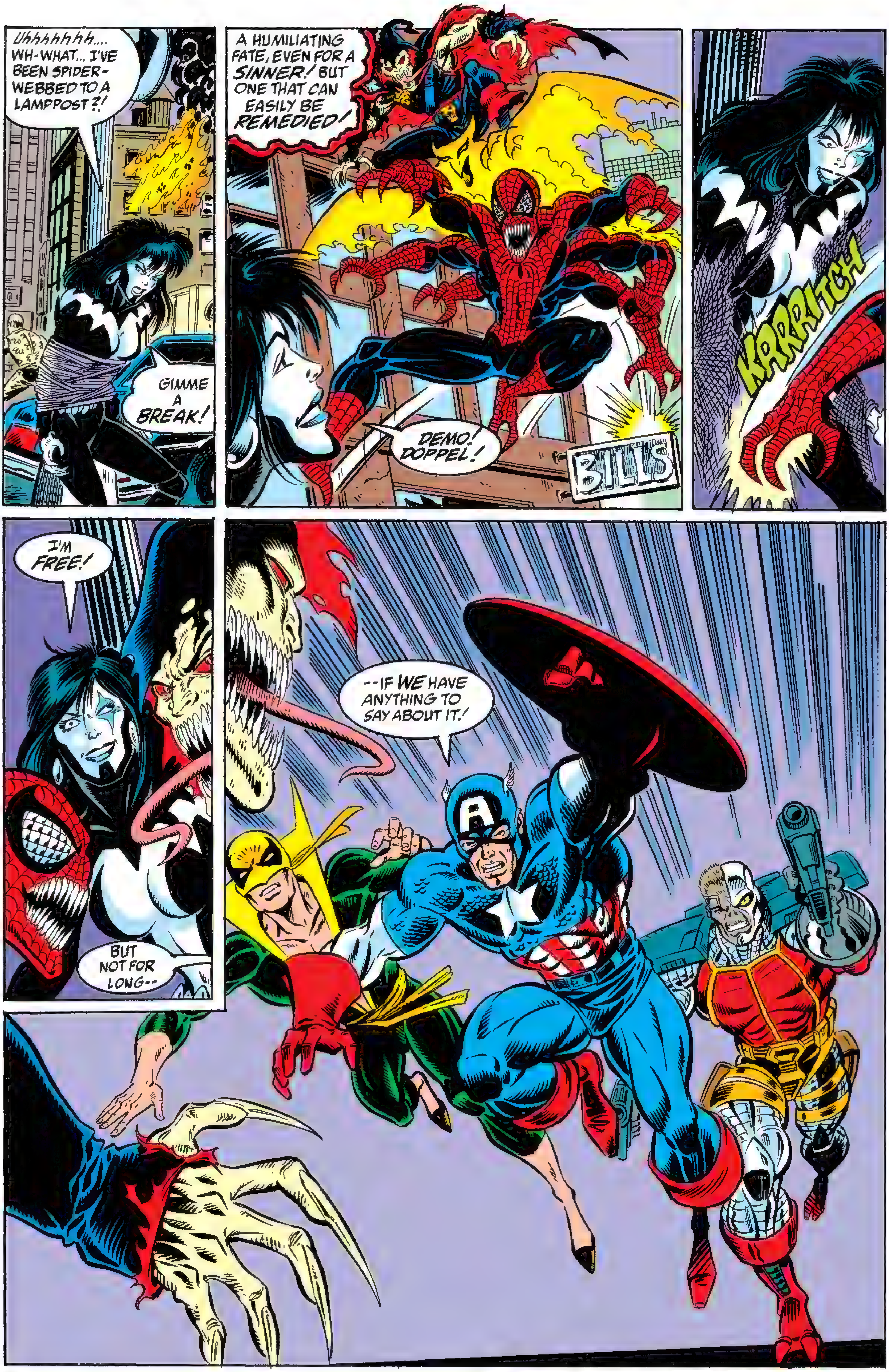

CARRION! WAFTING TOWARDS ME FROM BEHIND--!
HIS KILLING TOUCH TRYING TO STEAL LIFE FROM MY SENTIENT CAPE!
NOT TONIGHT!
THRAP
OR SHOULD I SAY, "NOT THIS MORNING"!
N-NIGHT-WATCH...
SUN COMING UP! WEAKENING MORBIUS! AND WITHOUT HIS HELP--
--I WON'T STAND A CHANCE!
?!?

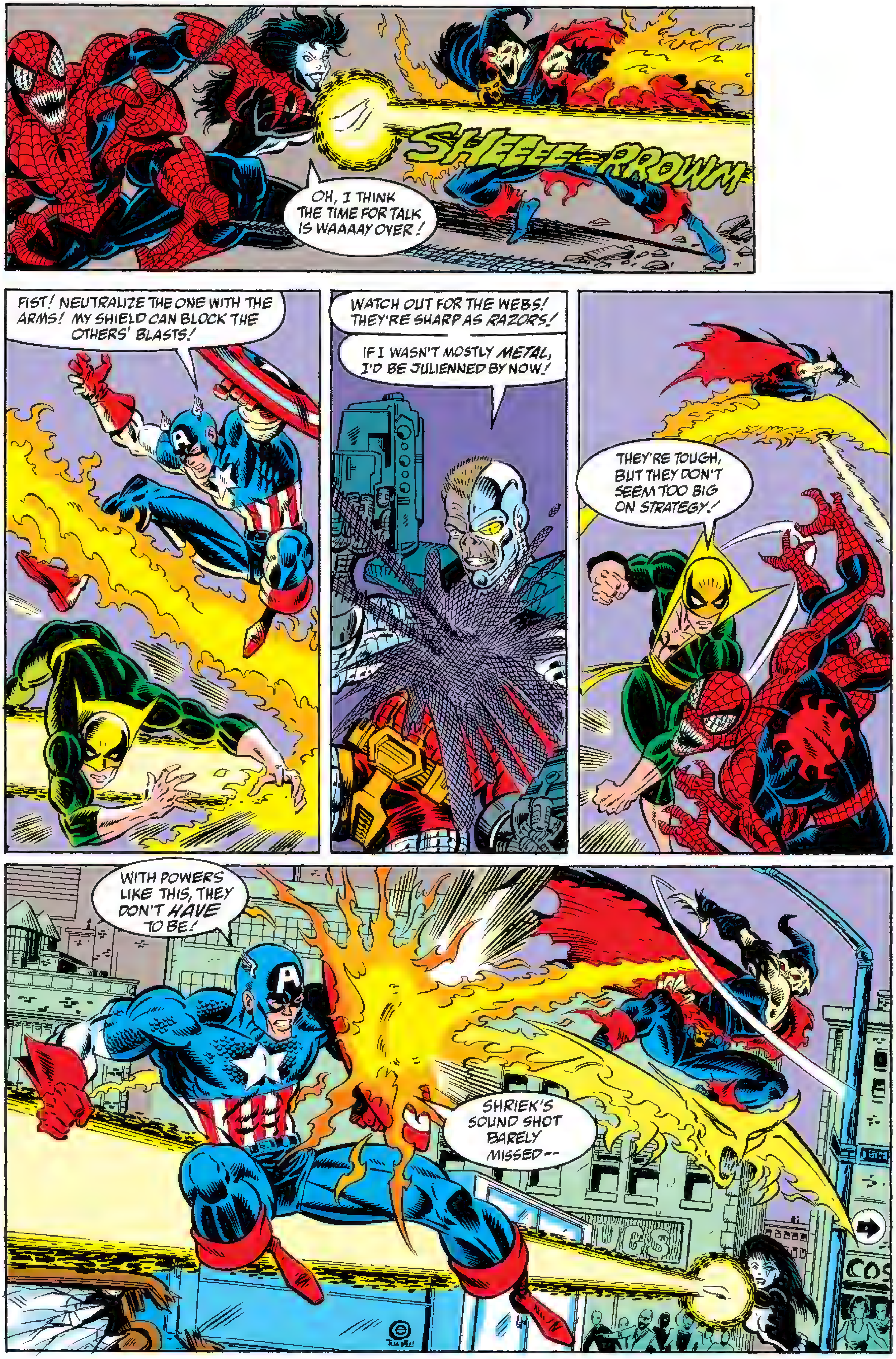

COME ON, MORBIUS--
--LET'S *BOTH* STAY ALIVE!
WOTTA BUNCH O' WIMPS! NEXT TIME, I'LL DO IT *MYSELF!*
PERHAPS, HAD YOU JOINED THE BATTLE *THIS* TIME...
SHUDDUP!
WHY DON'T YOU "MAMA'S BOYS" GO FIND SHRIEK--
AN' LET *PAPA* GET BACK TO MAN'S WORK!
NOW, OL' BUDDY... WHERE *WERE* WE?

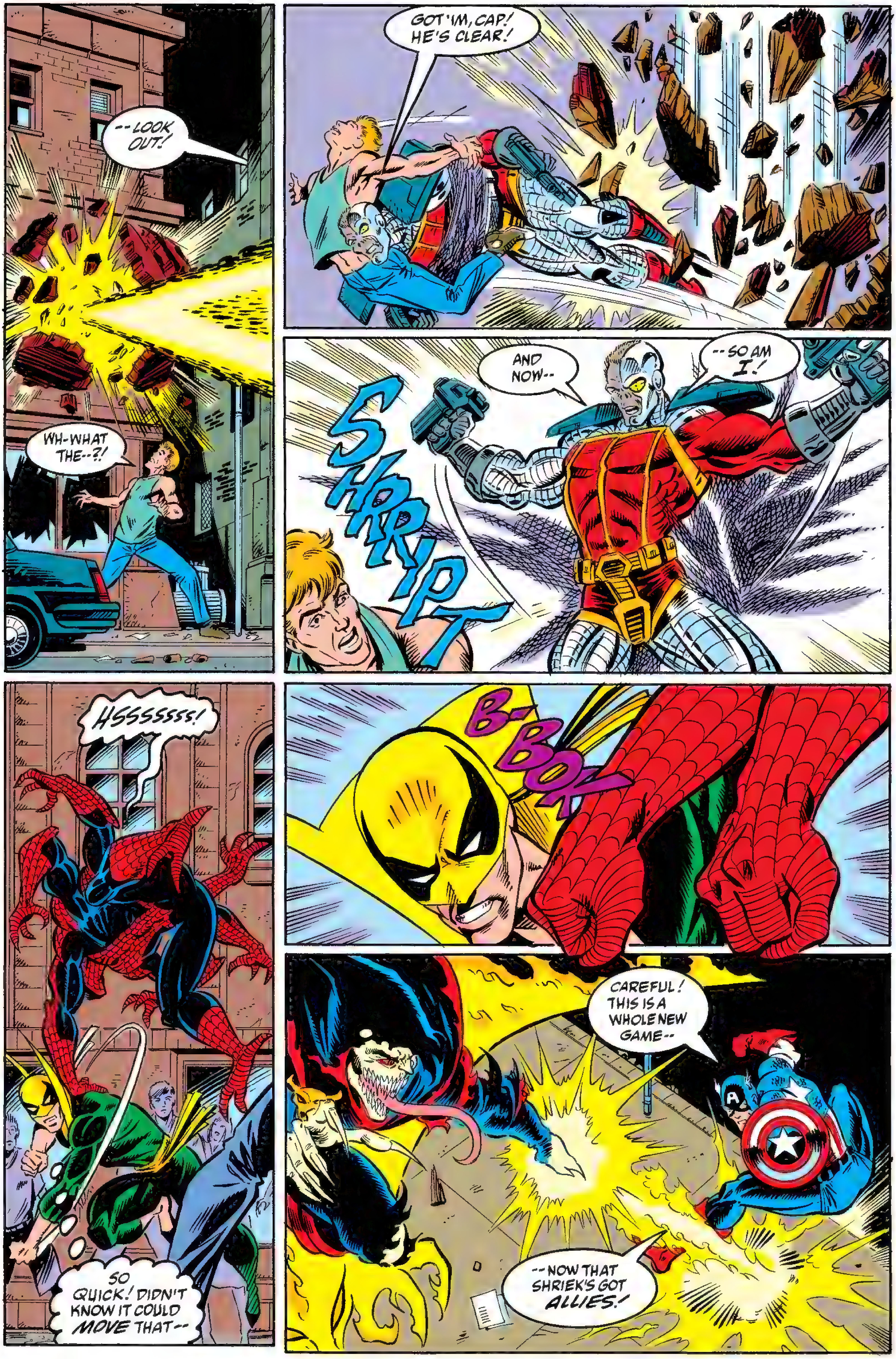

MANHATTAN.
--42ND STREET IS LIKE A SCENE FROM A DISASTER MOVIE!
EVERYDAY CITIZENS ARE LOOTING, FIGHTING! THE POLICE DON'T STAND A CHANCE!
IS THERE NOTHING THAT CAN STOP THIS LUNACY?
QIT-NEWS
SOHO
ZONE M-F
HATE THESE WINDOWS! LIKE LOOKIN' IN A MIRROR!
SHOWIN' ME WHAT A FAILURE I AM!
I'LL BREAK 'EM ALL!
I... I'M SORRY.
C'MON, WITCH, WE'RE GONNA PARTY!
TRY IT, SLEAZE, AN' I'LL KICK YOUR JOCKEYS UP INTO YOUR NAVEL!
WHA-- THAT LIGHT!
LIGHT'S JUST WHAT YOU NEED--
--TO SEE WHAT YOU'VE BECOME!
Oh, GEEZ! SH- SHE'S RIGHT! WHAT ARE WE DOING?
I'M AN ACCOUNTANT, NOT A... A...
CAN YOU EVER FORGIVE US?
YES.
I CAN.

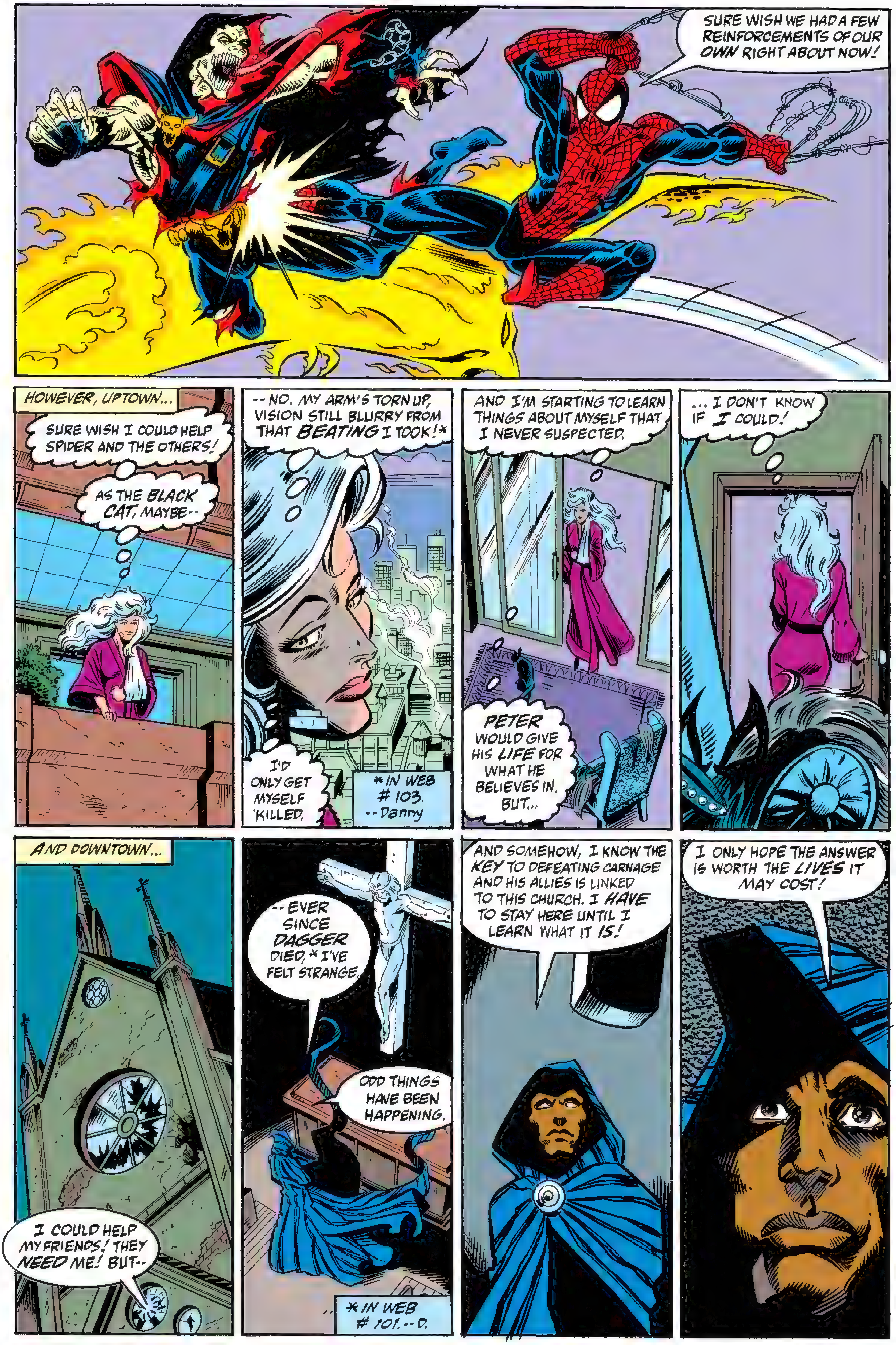

TEN MEGS OF RAM, AN 80-MEG HARD DRIVE! WHY SHOULDN'T I TAKE IT?
I DESERVE--
hrnk?
LEGGO! GET YOUR OWN--
--HEY! Y-YOU'RE DEATHLOK!
I HEARD YOU ACTUALLY GO INTO COMPUTERS! WOW!
COMPUTERS MAKE LIFE BETTER, SON-- STEALING THEM DOESN'T.
COM
I... I KNOW. I'LL PUT IT BACK.
ALL MY LIFE I'VE BEEN PICKED ON!
NO MORE!
?!
IRON FIST?
MARTIAL ARTS SHOULD HONOR THEIR MASTER. USING THEM FOR VENGEANCE BRINGS NOT VICTORY...
...BUT SHAME.
YOUR WORDS CLEANSE MY SPIRIT, SENSEI.
I APOLOGIZE.
THIS JERK WAS GOING TO SLUG THE OTHER ONE--
--JUST BECAUSE HE DIDN'T LIKE THE GUY'S TIE!
MAYBE MARY JANE WAS RIGHT!
MAYBE MY BEING HERE ISN'T WORTH WHAT I'M RISKING!
CREST COURTS

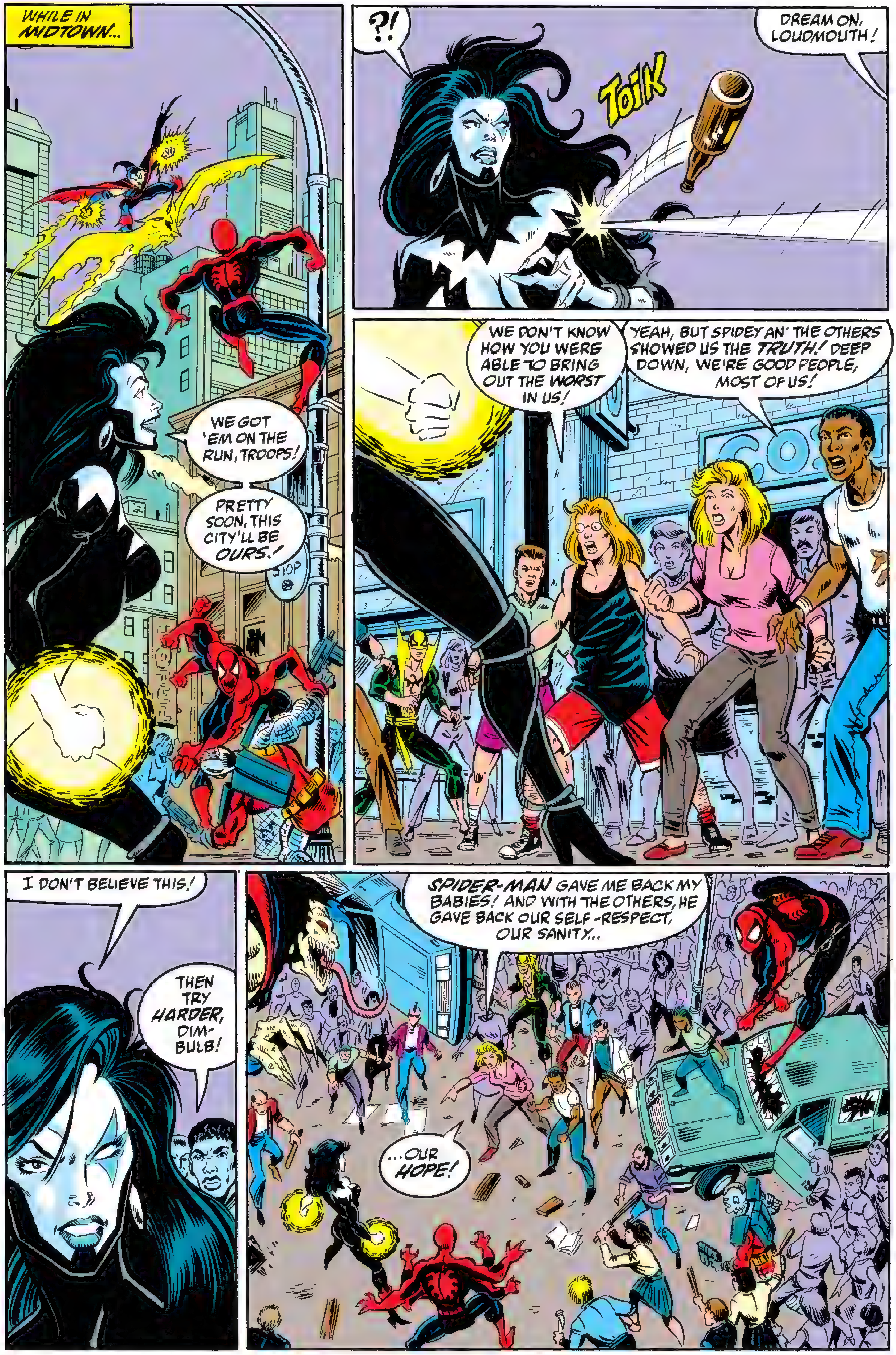

WAAAA!
MOMMEEE!
NO!
PLEASE! JUST LET ME GET THERE IN TIME!
LOUSY RUGRATS! TAKE EVERY MINUTE I HAVE, EVERY PENNY I MAKE--
--AND GIVE ME NOTHING IN RETURN BUT DIRTY DIAPERS AND STRETCHMARKS!
I'M SICK OF--
LADY! DON'T--!
STAY BACK! OR I'LL--
S-SPIDEY-MAN...!
I DON'T CARE WHO--
--YOU'RE... SPIDER-MAN?
B-BOBBY PLAYS YOU ALL THE TIME! HE'S SO CUTE, CRAWLING UP CHAIRS, U-USING YARN FOR WEBBING! HE...H-HE'S...
... MY BABY! LORD, WH-WHAT DID I ALMOST DO? OH, SPIDER-MAN..
...THANK YOU!
IF IT WASN'T FOR ME--NOT CAP, NOT ANYONE ELSE--
--THOSE KIDS WOULD BE DEAD!
BEING TRUE TO WHAT I AM IS THE MOST IMPORTANT THING! I REALIZE THAT NOW! AND IF I IGNORE IT--
--EVERYTHING ELSE IN MY LIFE, INCLUDING MY RELATIONSHIP WITH MARY JANE, WILL BE NOTHING BUT A HOLLOW SHAM! M.J. WAS WRONG!
THIS IS WORTH THE RISK!

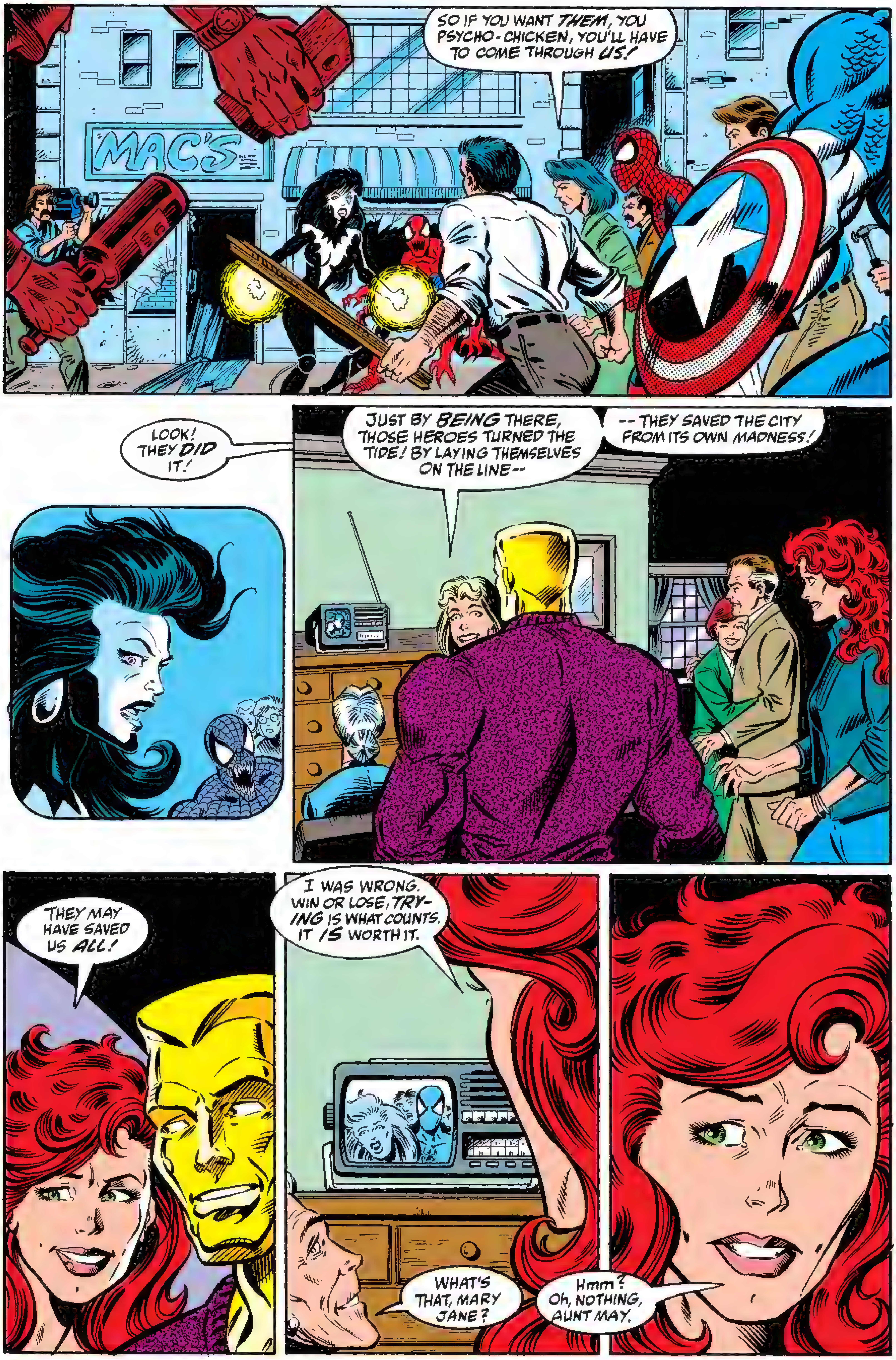

Uhhhhhhh.... WH-WHAT... I'VE BEEN SPIDER-WEBBED TO A LAMPPOST?!
GIMME A BREAK!
A HUMILIATING FATE, EVEN FOR A SINNER! BUT ONE THAT CAN EASILY BE REMEDIED!
DEMO! DOPPEL!
BILLS
KRRRITCH
I'M FREE!
BUT NOT FOR LONG--
--IF WE HAVE ANYTHING TO SAY ABOUT IT!

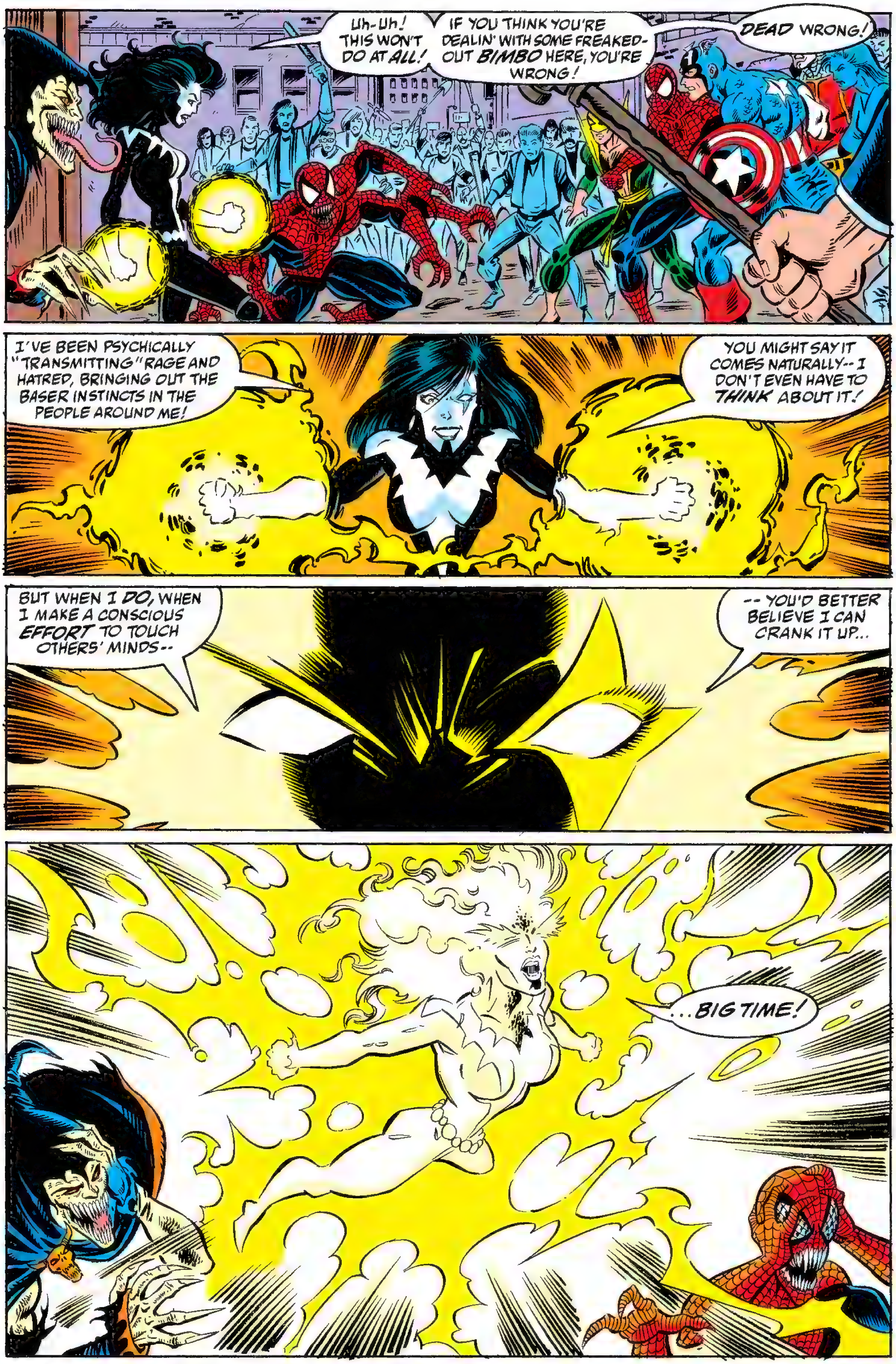

SHEEEE-RROWM
OH, I THINK THE TIME FOR TALK IS WAAAAY OVER!
FIST! NEUTRALIZE THE ONE WITH THE ARMS! MY SHIELD CAN BLOCK THE OTHERS' BLASTS!
WATCH OUT FOR THE WEBS! THEY'RE SHARP AS RAZORS!
IF I WASN'T MOSTLY METAL, I'D BE JULIENNED BY NOW!
THEY'RE TOUGH, BUT THEY DON'T SEEM TOO BIG ON STRATEGY!
WITH POWERS LIKE THIS, THEY DON'T HAVE TO BE!
SHRIEK'S SOUND SHOT BARELY MISSED--
UGS
COS

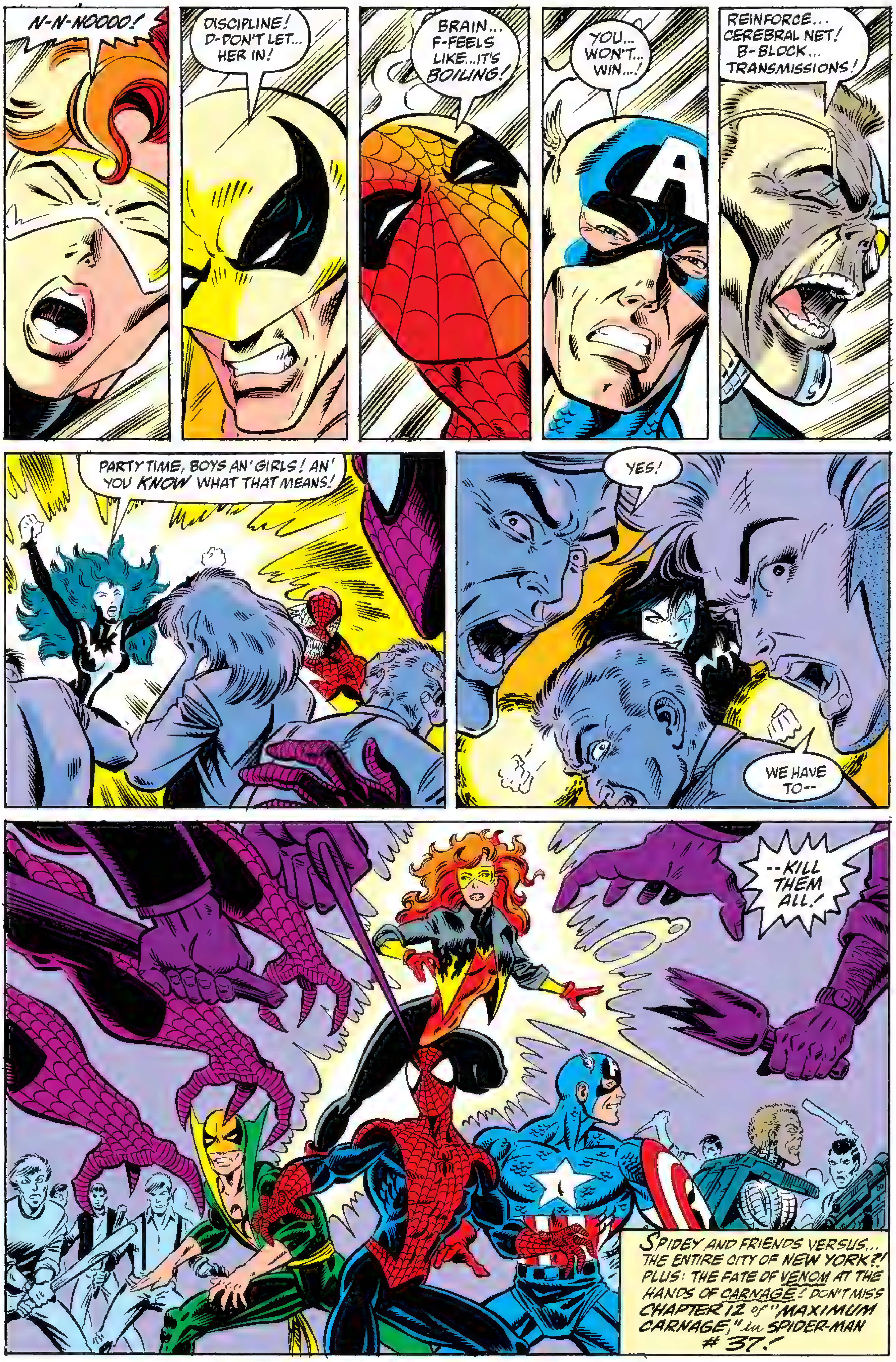

--LOOK OUT!
WH-WHAT THE--?!
GOT 'IM, CAP! HE'S CLEAR!
AND NOW--
--SO AM I!
SHRRIPT
HSSSSSSS!
SO QUICK! DIDN'T KNOW IT COULD *MOVE* THAT--
B-BOK
CAREFUL! THIS IS A WHOLE NEW GAME--
--NOW THAT SHRIEK'S GOT *ALLIES!*


SURE WISH WE HAD A FEW REINFORCEMENTS OF OUR OWN RIGHT ABOUT NOW!
HOWEVER, UPTOWN...
SURE WISH I COULD HELP SPIDER AND THE OTHERS!
AS THE BLACK CAT, MAYBE--
--NO. MY ARM'S TORN UP, VISION STILL BLURRY FROM THAT BEATING I TOOK!*
I'D ONLY GET MYSELF KILLED.
*IN WEB # 103. --Danny
AND I'M STARTING TO LEARN THINGS ABOUT MYSELF THAT I NEVER SUSPECTED.
PETER WOULD GIVE HIS LIFE FOR WHAT HE BELIEVES IN. BUT...
... I DON'T KNOW IF I COULD!
AND DOWNTOWN...
I COULD HELP MY FRIENDS! THEY NEED ME! BUT--
--EVER SINCE DAGGER DIED,* I'VE FELT STRANGE.
ODD THINGS HAVE BEEN HAPPENING.
*IN WEB # 101. --D.
AND SOMEHOW, I KNOW THE KEY TO DEFEATING CARNAGE AND HIS ALLIES IS LINKED TO THIS CHURCH. I HAVE TO STAY HERE UNTIL I LEARN WHAT IT IS!
I ONLY HOPE THE ANSWER IS WORTH THE LIVES IT MAY COST!


WHILE IN MIDTOWN...
WE GOT 'EM ON THE RUN, TROOPS!
PRETTY SOON, THIS CITY'LL BE OURS!
STOP
?!
TOIK
DREAM ON, LOUDMOUTH!
WE DON'T KNOW HOW YOU WERE ABLE TO BRING OUT THE WORST IN US!
YEAH, BUT SPIDEY AN' THE OTHERS SHOWED US THE TRUTH! DEEP DOWN, WE'RE GOOD PEOPLE, MOST OF US!
I DON'T BELIEVE THIS!
THEN TRY HARDER, DIM-BULB!
SPIDER-MAN GAVE ME BACK MY BABIES! AND WITH THE OTHERS, HE GAVE BACK OUR SELF-RESPECT, OUR SANITY...
...OUR HOPE!


SO IF YOU WANT *THEM*, YOU PSYCHO-CHICKEN, YOU'LL HAVE TO COME THROUGH *US*!
MAC'S
LOOK! THEY *DID* IT!
JUST BY *BEING* THERE, THOSE HEROES TURNED THE TIDE! BY LAYING THEMSELVES ON THE LINE--
--THEY SAVED THE CITY FROM ITS OWN MADNESS!
THEY MAY HAVE SAVED US *ALL*!
I WAS WRONG. WIN OR LOSE, *TRYING* IS WHAT COUNTS. IT *IS* WORTH IT.
WHAT'S THAT, MARY JANE?
Hmm? Oh, NOTHING, AUNT MAY.


UH-UH! THIS WON'T DO AT *ALL!*
IF YOU THINK YOU'RE DEALIN' WITH SOME FREAKED-OUT *BIMBO* HERE, YOU'RE WRONG!
DEAD WRONG!
I'VE BEEN PSYCHICALLY "TRANSMITTING" RAGE AND HATRED, BRINGING OUT THE BASER INSTINCTS IN THE PEOPLE AROUND ME!
YOU MIGHT SAY IT COMES NATURALLY-- I DON'T EVEN HAVE TO *THINK* ABOUT IT!
BUT WHEN I *DO*, WHEN I MAKE A CONSCIOUS *EFFORT* TO TOUCH OTHERS' MINDS--
-- YOU'D BETTER BELIEVE I CAN CRANK IT UP...
...BIG TIME!


N-N-NOOOO!
DISCIPLINE! D-DON'T LET... HER IN!
BRAIN... F-FEELS LIKE...IT'S BOILING!
YOU... WON'T... WIN...!
REINFORCE... CEREBRAL NET! B-BLOCK... TRANSMISSIONS!
PARTY TIME, BOYS AN' GIRLS! AN' YOU KNOW WHAT THAT MEANS!
YES!
WE HAVE TO--
--KILL THEM ALL!
SPIDEY AND FRIENDS VERSUS... THE ENTIRE CITY OF NEW YORK?! PLUS: THE FATE OF VENOM AT THE HANDS OF CARNAGE! DON'T MISS CHAPTER 12 of "MAXIMUM CARNAGE," in SPIDER-MAN # 37!

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MAXIMUM CARNAGE™
PART 12 OF 14
SPIDER-MAN®
INSIDE: VENOM!
GUEST-STARRING MARVEL'S GREATEST ACTION HEROES!
Tom Lyle/93

[redacted]

-- AND ACROSS THE CITY TODAY, THE WAVE OF VIOLENCE CONTINUES.
MORE LIKE A PLAGUE, ACTUALLY.

[redacted]

A PSYCHIC VIRUS, SPREADING THROUGH THE FIVE BOROUGHS--
--TURNING HUNDREDS OF AVERAGE NEW YORKERS INTO BLOODTHIRSTY LUNATICS.
IT'S BEEN SPECULATED THAT THIS WOMAN--KNOWN ONLY AS SHRIEK--IS SOMEHOW THE SOURCE OF THE OUTBREAKS.
ALL WE KNOW FOR SURE IS THAT THE VIOLENCE BEGAN SHORTLY AFTER SHRIEK--HAVING ESCAPED FROM A MENTAL HOSPITAL IN THE COMPANY OF THE SERIAL KILLER CALLED CARNAGE--
--JOINED FORCES WITH SEVERAL OTHER COSTUMED PSYCHOTICS.
TOGETHER THEY'VE UNLEASHED A STORM OF BLOOD AND DESTRUCTION THAT'S TURNED OUR CITY INTO A WAR ZONE.
ALTHOUGH A LOOSELY-ASSEMBLED TEAM OF SUPER HEROES HAS MADE A VALIANT EFFORT TO STOP THE SLAUGHTER--
--THEY, TOO, SEEM UNABLE TO BRING THIS MADNESS TO AN END.
WHEN ASKED FOR A COMMENT, CAPTAIN AMERICA--CLEARLY UNDER STRESS--HAD ONLY THIS TO SAY:
WE'RE DOING EVERYTHING WE CAN!
ON THE SCEN

NOW SHUT DOWN THOSE CAMERAS--AND GET YOUR PEOPLE OUT OF HERE!
WITH THAT, THE LIVING LEGEND OF WORLD WAR II RETURNED TO THE--
I CAN'T TAKE THIS ANYMORE!
LOOK AT US! HUDDLED HERE LIKE FRIGHTENED SHEEP IN LIZ'S APARTMENT--HIDING AWAY--
--WHILE THOSE... DEVILS RUN LOOSE!
I FEEL LIKE I'M IN PRISON AGAIN!
RICHARD... DARLING... PLEASE DON'T--!
DON'T WHAT, MARY? DON'T SPEAK THE TRUTH?
WHEN WE WERE LOCKED AWAY IN THAT SOVIET HELL HOLE--ONE OF THE FEW THINGS THAT GAVE ME HOPE... KEPT ME SANE... WAS THINKING ABOUT MY LIFE BACK HOME--
--A WORLD THAT MADE SOME KIND OF SENSE. MORAL... ORDERLY--BUT I NOW SEE WHAT A FOOL I WAS! THAT WORLD I REMEMBERED WAS JUST AN ILLUSION! THE EVIL WAS HERE... ALL ALONG... FESTERING BENEATH THE SURFACE! AND IT'S FINALLY BURST THROUGH TO--
SHUT
UP!!
huh?!
FATHER-IN-LAW OR NOT... I AM SICK TO DEATH OF LISTENING TO YOU!
THERE ARE DECENT PEOPLE OUT THERE PUTTING THEIR LIVES ON THE LINE! THEY NEED OUR GOOD THOUGHTS--OUR PRAYERS-- --NOT YOUR NEGATIVITY AND CYNICISM!
NOW, MARY JANE--I... I KNOW YOU'RE UPSET--

UPSET?! YOU SAW WHAT HAPPENED A FEW MINUTES AGO!* THEY MADE A DIFFERENCE!
WITHOUT EVEN LIFTING A FINGER, SPIDER-MAN AND THE OTHERS TOUCHED THOSE PEOPLE--
--REACHED INTO THEIR HEARTS AND GAVE THEM HOPE!
*IN AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #380.--Danny
THE VIOLENCE WOULD HAVE ENDED RIGHT THEN AND THERE IF IT WASN'T FOR WHAT THAT SHRIEK DID!
BUT THE HEROES WILL STILL WIN THIS THING-- YOU WAIT AND SEE!
WHATEVER PSYCHIC HOLD SHRIEK HAS ON THOSE PEOPLE, SPIDER-MAN WILL STOP HER!
SO I DON'T WANT TO HEAR ANOTHER NEGATIVE WORD OUT OF YOU, RICHARD--YOU HEAR ME?
B-BUT--
NOT
ANOTHER
WORD!
...PLEASE...
WHAT'S THAT? SPEAK UP, "DADDY" DEAREST-- I CAN'T HEAR YOU.
PLEASE... CARNAGE...
"PLEASE, CARNAGE" WHAT?
P-PLEASE... CARNAGE--

Stan Lee presents:

MAXIMUM CARNAGE CHAPTER 12

The LIGHT!

--DON'T HURT US...
...ANY-MORE...
Y'KNOW SOMETHING, "POP"?
YOU'RE PATHETIC.!

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IF YOU THINK I'M GOING TO STOP... WHEN I'VE FINALLY GOT YOU WHERE I *WANT* YOU... THEN YOU'RE CRAZIER THAN *I* AM!
I'M GONNA KEEP THIS UP FOR *DAYS! WEEKS!* TORTURE YOU TILL YOU'RE EVEN *MORE* OF A WHIMPERING WRECK THAN YOU ARE *NOW*--
--AND THEN-- AND ONLY THEN--
--WILL I DO YOU THE HONOR OF *KILLING* YOU!
SHRAAKK
YEEEAARRRR!
WELL, LOOKEE, LOOKEE--
--DADDY'S LITTLE SYMBIOTE IS *STILL* ALIVE AND KICKING! TRYING TO *RE-FORM* AND SAVE THE OLD MAN FROM BIG BAD *CARNAGE*--
LIKE I SAID, "POPS"!--
--*PATHETIC!*
YOU TRIED THIS STUNT A LITTLE *WHILE* AGO* --AND I STOPPED YOU COLD WITH THIS *SONIC GUN!*
GUESS I'LL HAVE T'DO IT *AGAIN!*
* ALSO IN *AMAZING* #380. --Danny

NO... DON'T-- PLEASE!
NOT THAT!
NOT THAT!
AW... LOOK AT 'IM: HE'S REALLY TERRIFIED. POOR GUY--
--MAYBE HE'S HAD ENOUGH. MAYBE I SHOULDN'T USE THE GUN ON HIM.
AND IF YOU BELIEVE THAT... THERE'S A BRIDGE IN BROOKLYN I'D LIKE TO SELL YOU!
BANG-BANG, EDDIE... YOU'RE--
PLOOSH!
KLIK
--DEAD...?!
W-WAIT A MINUTE! WHAT'S GOING ON?!
WHAT'S GOING ON... YOU PITIFUL FOOL?

VENOM... IS... FREE--
SWAKKT
--THAT'S WHAT'S GOING ON!
WHILE WE... DISTRACTED YOU WITH OUR... PERFORMANCE-- WE SENT A PIECE OF OUR OTHER... INTO THE GUN--
--SABOTAGING IT!
NO! IT'S NOT POSSIBLE! I HAD YOU BEATEN! YOU WERE BEGGING ME TO--
THKOOM
DID YOU REALLY THINK... WE WOULD CRY AND BEG... FOR MERCY? YOU'RE THE PATHETIC CRYBABY IN THIS FAMILY, LITTLE BOY... NOT US!
NOW... EXCUSE US--
--WHILE WE ESCAPE!
RUN AWAY IS MORE LIKE IT! STILL SO WEAK... FROM TORTURE... CAN HARDLY STAND! TOOK EVERYTHING WE HAD... JUST TO BREAK LOOSE--
--AND GET PAST CARNAGE! OUR "OFFSPRING" WILL HAVE TO WAIT... UNTIL AFTER WE'VE HEALED!
OH... BUT, ONCE WE HAVE--! AS OUR DEAR FATHER USED TO SAY: "SON... I BROUGHT YOU INTO THIS WORLD--
"--AND I CAN TAKE YOU OUT OF IT!"
I WAS WINNING! I WAS WINNING!
I WAS WINNING!

...WHAT AM I DOING HERE?
THE WORLD OUTSIDE IS IN CHAOS... PEOPLE ARE HURTING... DYING!
CLOAK SHOULD BE OUT THERE... HELPING--
--AND YET SOMETHING HAS DRAWN ME BACK--TO THE HOLY GHOST CHURCH--
A FEELING... DEEP IN MY HEART, A VOICE... FROM THE BOTTOM OF MY SOUL--
--BUT I DON'T KNOW WHAT IT MEANS!
WHAT DO YOU WANT FROM ME?!
PLEASE... I DON'T KNOW IF I'M JUST MAD WITH GRIEF OVER DAGGER'S DEATH--
--OR IF WHAT I'M FEELING IS REAL.
I-I'VE LOST MY WAY.
HELP ME--
--PLEASE.

...DEATHLOK-- *MOVE!*
THE ONLY WAY TO STOP THIS MADNESS IS TO CUT IT OFF AT THE SOURCE! ONE OF US HAS *GOT* TO REACH *SHRIEK!*
I'M GIVING IT MY BEST, CAP--
--BUT CUTTING A PATH THROUGH THESE PEOPLE WITHOUT SERIOUSLY *HURTING* THEM ISN'T EXACTLY EASY--!
SHANNG
I'VE BEEN DOING THIS FOR MORE YEARS THAN I'D CARE TO COUNT--
--AND "EASY" WAS NEVER A PART OF THE JOB DESCRIPTION!
KANK!
THIS HERO GAME'S STILL PRETTY *NEW* TO ME--
--BUT I HOPE THAT, A FEW DECADES DOWN THE LINE, I CAN LOOK BACK ON MY LIFE--
--KNOWING I'VE DONE *HALF* THE JOB YOU HAVE!
LOOK AT THEM, "CHILDREN"--
HUNGGH!
--GALLANT KNIGHTS... SO DETERMINED TO SEE WRONGS *RIGHTED*--AND THE INNOCENT PROTECTION!
CERTAIN THAT, IN THE END, GOOD WILL DEFEAT EVIL!
THEY'RE CHASING AN *ILLUSION!* A LIE!
"MOTHER.." PLEASE--DON'T UPSET YOURSELF--

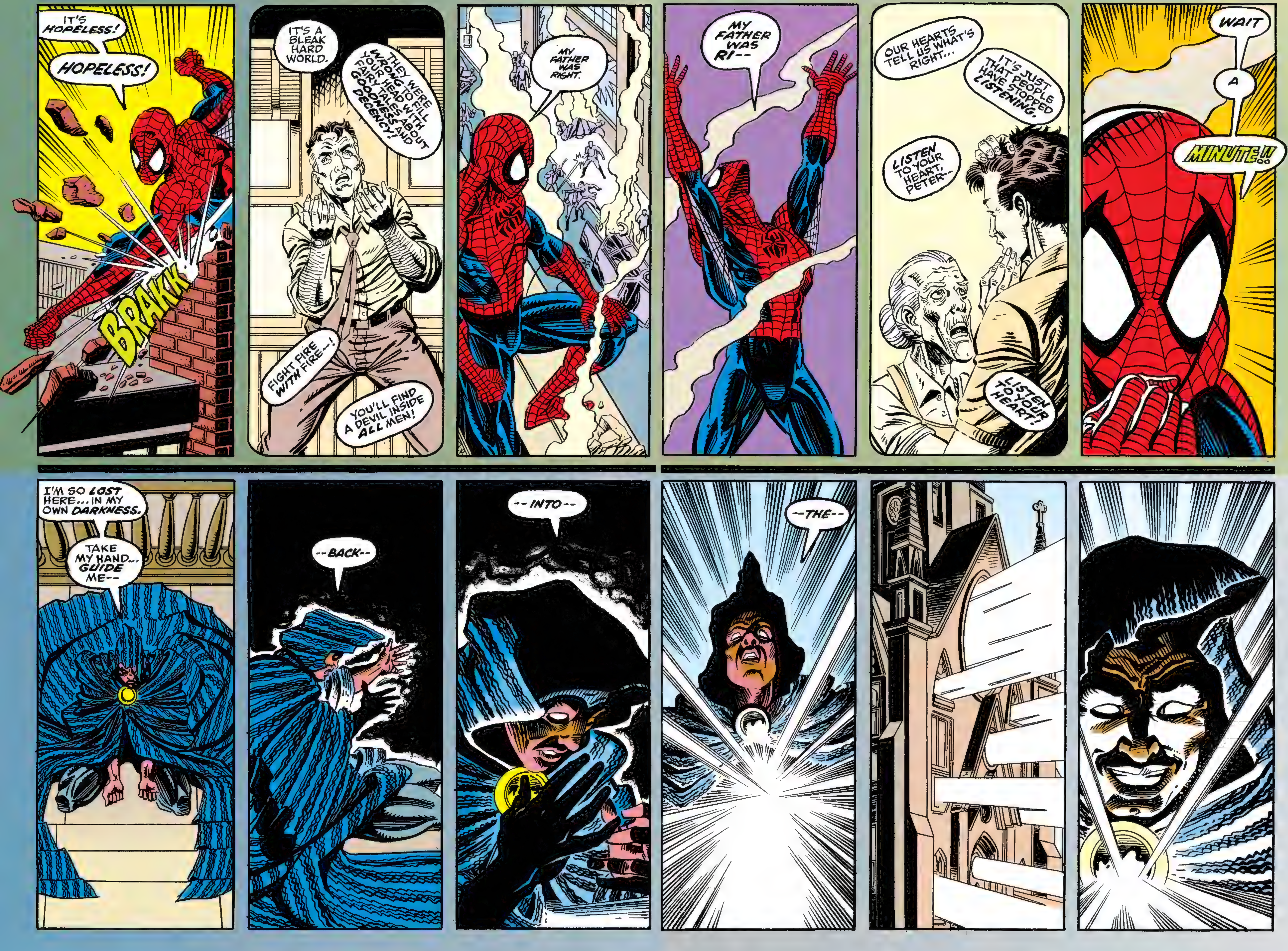
"BUT I WANT TO BE UPSET, CARRION!
I JUST SMILED... TRIED TO BE GOOD... SO THEY'D LOVE ME... AND STOP HURTING ME!
BUT THEY NEVER STOPPED!
THEY JUST KEPT AT ME AND AT ME AND AT ME!
AND THEY NEVER STOPPED!
H-YEENK?
NO, SWEETHEART. DON'T WORRY. I'M NOT YELLING AT YOU.
"WHEN I WAS A LITTLE GIRL... WHEN I WAS TORMENTED AND ABUSED BY THE PEOPLE I TRUSTED MOST IN THE WORLD--
"--I WAS NEVER ALLOWED TO BE UPSET!"
"IT'S THEM I'M UPSET WITH. THE WHITE HATS. THE GOOD GUYS. HEADS STUFFED WITH DREAMS AND IDEALS.
"EVERY DAY THEY SAVE THE WORLD. BUT TELL ME THIS, MY LITTLE SPIDER--"
--WHY WEREN'T THEY THERE TO SAVE ME?!
HRRRGH--
NO, NO, NO--YOU DON'T HAVE TO PUNISH THEM. I KNOW IT LOOKS LIKE THEY'RE CLOSING IN ON US--
--BUT ALL I HAVE TO DO IS GIVE THE CROWD--
--ANOTHER--
--LITTLE--
--PUSH--
"--AND THE GOOD GUYS LOSE--
"--BIG TIME--!"

NOW LET'S GO FIND A SAFER *PERCH*, BOYS--WHERE "MUMMY" CAN ENJOY THE MAYHEM IN *PEACE*!
Hnnngg...?
YES, SWEETHEART--YOU'LL GET YOUR CHANCE TO *KILL* SOME MORE OF THEM... BUT LET'S WAIT TILL "*DADDY*" GETS HOME!
WE *ARE* A FAMILY, AFTER ALL!
GET *BACK*, YOU MANIACS, BEFORE I--
FZZECHAK
BEFORE YOU *WHAT*, ANJELICA? YOU KNOW THEY'RE NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR THEIR ACTIONS--
--AND YET, THEY'VE GOT TO BE *STOPPED*--BEFORE ANY MORE *LIVES* ARE LOST--
--BEFORE THIS ENTIRE *CITY* IS SWIMMING *BLOOD*!
THIS WOULD BE SO EASY TO DO IF I WERE SOMEONE LIKE VENOM OR THE *PUNISHER*--"HEROES" WHO *KILL* WITHOUT SO MUCH AS A *THOUGHT* ABOUT THE CONSEQUENCES--
--WHO SPEND MORE TIME MOURNING FOR *THEMSELVES* THAN FOR THEIR *VICTIMS*!
BUT I'M *NOT* LIKE THEM! AND I'D RATHER *DIE* THAN WIN THIS USING THEIR DESPICABLE METHODS!
SPIDER-MAN KEEPS SAYING IT... AND I *KNOW* IT'S TRUE--
--*THERE'S GOT TO BE ANOTHER WAY!*
EMUNG
113
GO *DEEP*.
INTO THE *CENTER*.
INTO THE STILLNESS OF *GOD*.

DON'T LET THEIR POISON *INFECT* YOU.
DON'T LET THEIR FANGS BREAK THE *SKIN.*
AND... AS YOU GO FARTHER INTO YOUR HEART... FIND *THEIR* HEARTS, TOO.
113
MEET THEM IN THE SILENCE.
AND LET
THE SILENCE
SPEAK.
...

GET 'IM!
huh?
KILL THE SONUVA--
NO!
TOO MANY OF THEM... FROM TOO MANY DIRECTIONS! HOW CAN I CONCENTRATE WHEN THEY--
JUST
KEEP
COMING--?!
THERE'S JUST SO MUCH OF THIS SICKNESS A MAN CAN TAKE!
I'VE HAD IT--DO YOU HEAR ME?!
I'VE HAD IT WITH ALL OF YOU!!

I'M SURE YOU HAVE, FIST--
--WE ALL HAVE--
--BUT TAKING THOSE PEOPLE APART ISN'T GONNA HELP ANYONE!
ALMOST FORGOT ABOUT ME, HUH?
SPIDER-MAN!
TH-THANK YOU... FOR GETTING ME AWAY FROM THEM.
WHEN I THINK OF WHAT I ALMOST DID! I WAS READY TO--
HEY--DON'T GET SO DOWN ON YOURSELF! YOU THINK WE'RE NOT FEELING THE EFFECTS OF SHRIEK'S PSYCHOTIC VIBES? IT'S AMAZING WE HAVEN'T ALL CRACKED UP BY NOW--!
BUT THAT WAS A NICE ATTEMPT YOU MADE. HOW'D YOU DO IT? COOL THEM DOWN LIKE THAT?
A... MEDITATIVE TECHNIQUE I LEARNED IN K'UN L'UNN. REACH DOWN INTO THE CALM CENTER OF THE SOUL... AND YOU NOT ONLY AFFECT YOURSELF--
--BUT YOUR ENVIRONMENT, AS WELL.
YOU MEAN YOU WON--BY NOT FIGHTING?
WE ARE ALL ESSENTIALLY, ONE. DIVINE. ALL SOULS CRAVE THE EXPERIENCE OF THAT ONENESS. OFFERED..
--IT CAN'T BE REFUSED.
I'M NOT MUCH ON THIS ALAN WATTS STUFF--
-- BUT IF YOU COULD TEACH THE REST OF US HOW TO DO THIS LITTLE TRICK--
IT'S NOT A "TRICK," SPIDER-MAN--BUT I COULD TEACH IT TO YOU--
YEAH? HOW LONG WOULD IT TAKE?
EIGHT OR TEN YEARS.
KKAK


IT'S HOPELESS!
HOPELESS!
BRAKK
IT'S A BLEAK HARD WORLD.
THEY WERE WRONG TO FILL YOUR HEAD WITH FAIRY TALES ABOUT GOODNESS AND DECENCY!
FIGHT FIRE WITH FIRE--!
YOU'LL FIND A DEVIL INSIDE ALL MEN!
MY FATHER WAS RIGHT.
MY FATHER WAS RI--
OUR HEARTS TELL US WHAT'S RIGHT...
IT'S JUST THAT PEOPLE HAVE STOPPED LISTENING.
LISTEN TO YOUR HEART, PETER--
LISTEN TO YOUR HEART!
WAIT
A
MINUTE!!
I'M SO LOST HERE... IN MY OWN DARKNESS.
TAKE MY HAND... GUIDE ME--
--BACK--
--INTO--
--THE--

...I THINK IT'S TIME TO GO, BOYS. THESE RIDICULOUS HEROES HAVEN'T GOT A CHANCE.
LET'S SHED SOME BLOOD... SPREAD SOME CHAOS--
BUT--WHAT OF OUR "FATHER"? I THOUGHT YOU WANTED TO WAIT FOR HIM, BEFORE WE--
FATHER OR NOT--WE CAN'T STAND HERE WAITING FOR HIM FOREVER.
I'M NOT THE KIND OF WOMAN TO SIT AROUND BAKING PIES WHILE MY MAN'S OUT GALLIVANTING AROUND TOWN--
--SO LET'S PACK UP THE GUITARS AND AMPS... AND GET THIS ROCK AND ROLL CIRCUS ON THE--
NOT SO FAST--
--DARLING!
YOUR "HUBBY'S" HOME AT LAST--
--AND HE'S NOT VERY HAPPY!
C-CARNAGE--! WHAT ARE YOU--?
HOW DARE YOU GO OUT MURDERING PEOPLE WITHOUT MY PERMISSION?!
NO WIFE OF MINE IS GOING TO HAVE HER OWN CAREER!
I OUGHTA KILL YOU HERE AND NOW--
--BUT I THINK IT'S MORE IMPORTANT THAT YOU LEARN YOUR LESSON--
--THE HARD WAY!
KRAAAK!

I WEAR THE PANTS IN THIS FAMILY--AND EITHER YOU LIVE BY MY RULES OR YOU FACE THE CONSE-QUEN--
--AAAK!
HRRARRGGH!
SO--THIS IS HOW IT'S GONNA BE, EH?
MY LITTLE BOYS ARE--
--REVOLTING.
WELL... IF THAT'S HOW YOU WANT IT... WHO AM I TO ARGUE?
SHHWAAAKK!
I'M CARNAGE--
YAIIIII!!
--THAT'S WHO I AM!
NO!

I JUST DON'T KNOW WHAT HAPPENS TO THESE KIDS WHEN THEY REACH ADOLESCENCE--
--THE *HORMONES* START POPPING, THE *ADRENALINE* STARTS *PUMPING*--
--NEXT THING YOU KNOW, THEY'RE WEARING LEATHER JACKETS AND GETTING INTO ALL *KINDS* OF TROUBLE!
THOUGHT YOU WERE *INDESTRUCTIBLE*--*DIDN'T* YOU, JAMES DEAN?
WELL, *SURPRISE*--
--YOU'RE *NOT*!
POK!
SIGH IT'S SUCH A TRAGEDY... A "FATHER" LOSING HIS *FAVORITE* "SON"!
I HAD SUCH... HIGH HOPES FOR HIM!
SKRAK!
AH, WELL... NO USE GETTING LOST IN MY GRIEF. TIME TO LOOK TOWARD THE FUTURE AND MOVE ON.
SO--DID WE ALL GET THE *POINT* OF MY LITTLE DEMONSTRATION?
ARE WE GOING TO START ACTING LIKE A *FAMILY* AGAIN--OR DO I HAVE TO TAKE YOU APART--
--ONE BY ONE!
BAH!
I REMAINED WITH YOU THIS LONG BECAUSE I THOUGHT IT WOULD HELP ME IN MY *HOLY CAUSE*--
--BUT I SEE THAT--IN THE COMPANY OF SUCH AS YOU--
--THE CAUSE WOULD SURELY BE *LOST*!
AND SO I BID YOU ALL A VERY *HEARTFELT* GOOD--
WHERE'RE YOU *GOING* IN SUCH A HURRY, *DEMO*?

--THE PARTY'S JUST GETTING *STARTED!*
OH, I SEE YOU NOTICED THAT THE STREETS ARE *DESERTED.* FUNNY *THING* ABOUT THAT.
SEEMS THAT, WHILE YOU JERKS WERE GOING AT EACH OTHER, SHRIEK LOST CONTROL OF THE *CROWD*--
--AND WE WERE ABLE TO GET EVERYONE SAFELY *OUT* OF HERE.
HOPE YOU'RE NOT *DISAPPOINTED!*
SHRIEK, BABY... OUR MARITAL SQUABBLES WILL HAVE TO *WAIT*--
AGREED! THESE WHITE HATS ARE REALLY BECOMING A *NUISANCE*--
--ESPECIALLY THE *SPIDER!*
YES... *SPIDER-MAN*... THE ONE I HATE MOST OF *ALL!*
HEY, HONEY... I'VE GOT A *GREAT* IDEA... LET'S EVISCERATE THESE YO-YOS *QUICK*--THEN FLY THE *WHOLE FAMILY* DOWN TO *DISNEY-WORLD*--!
WE CAN MEND OUR BROKEN HOME... AND KILL A FEW THOUSAND TOURISTS... ALL AT THE *SAME TIME!*
YOUR DARKNESS WILL NOT SPREAD BEYOND THIS *POINT*, CARNAGE--
--FOR THE TIME HAS *COME*--
NO! IT'S *IMPOSSIBLE!*

--TO FACE THE LIGHT!!
NEXT, IN SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #203:
DAGGER LIVES!
(AND VENOM REJOINS THE BATTLE!)
MAXIMUM CARNAGE-- PART 13!
DO NOT MISS IT!

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PART 13 OF 14
the
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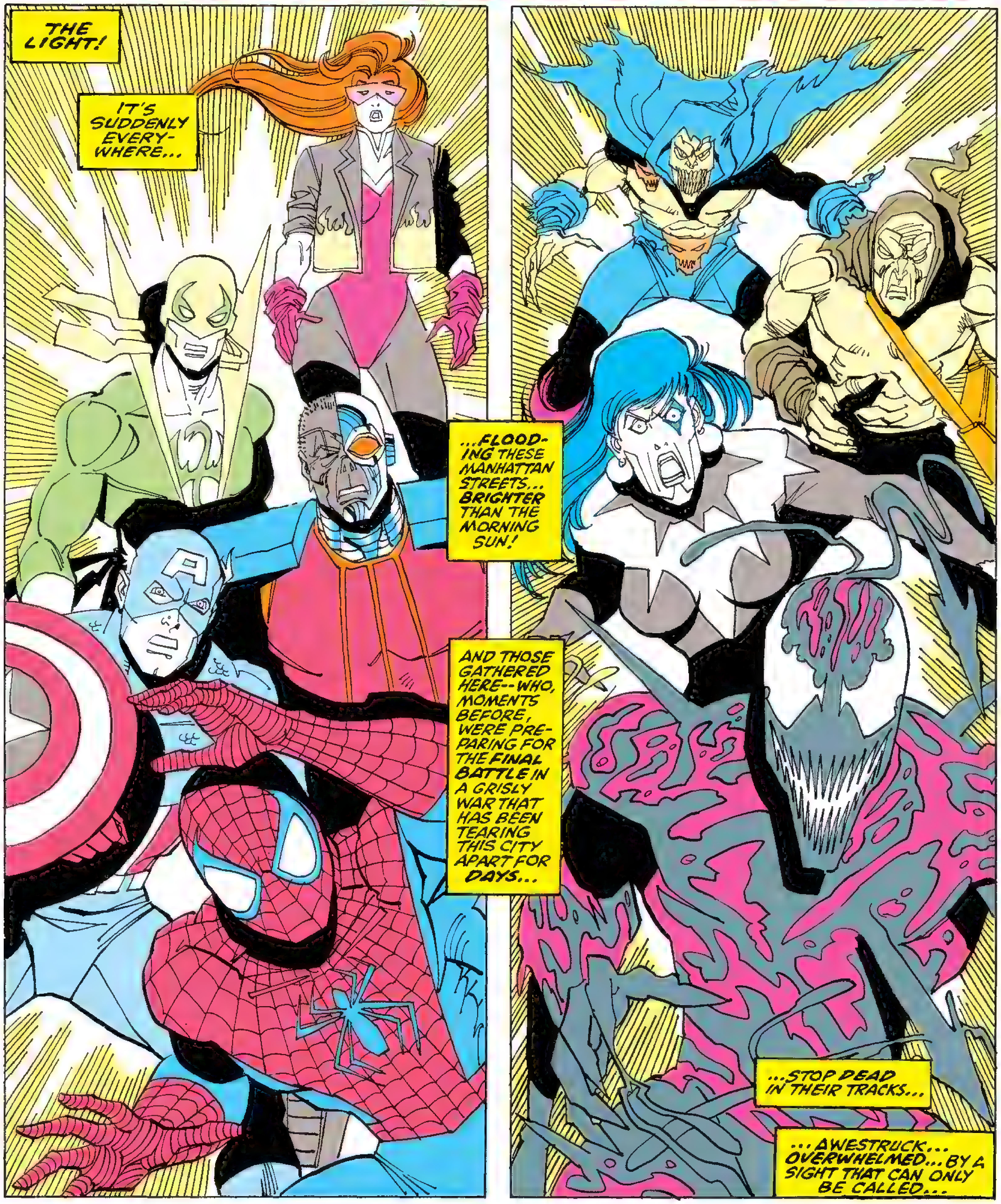
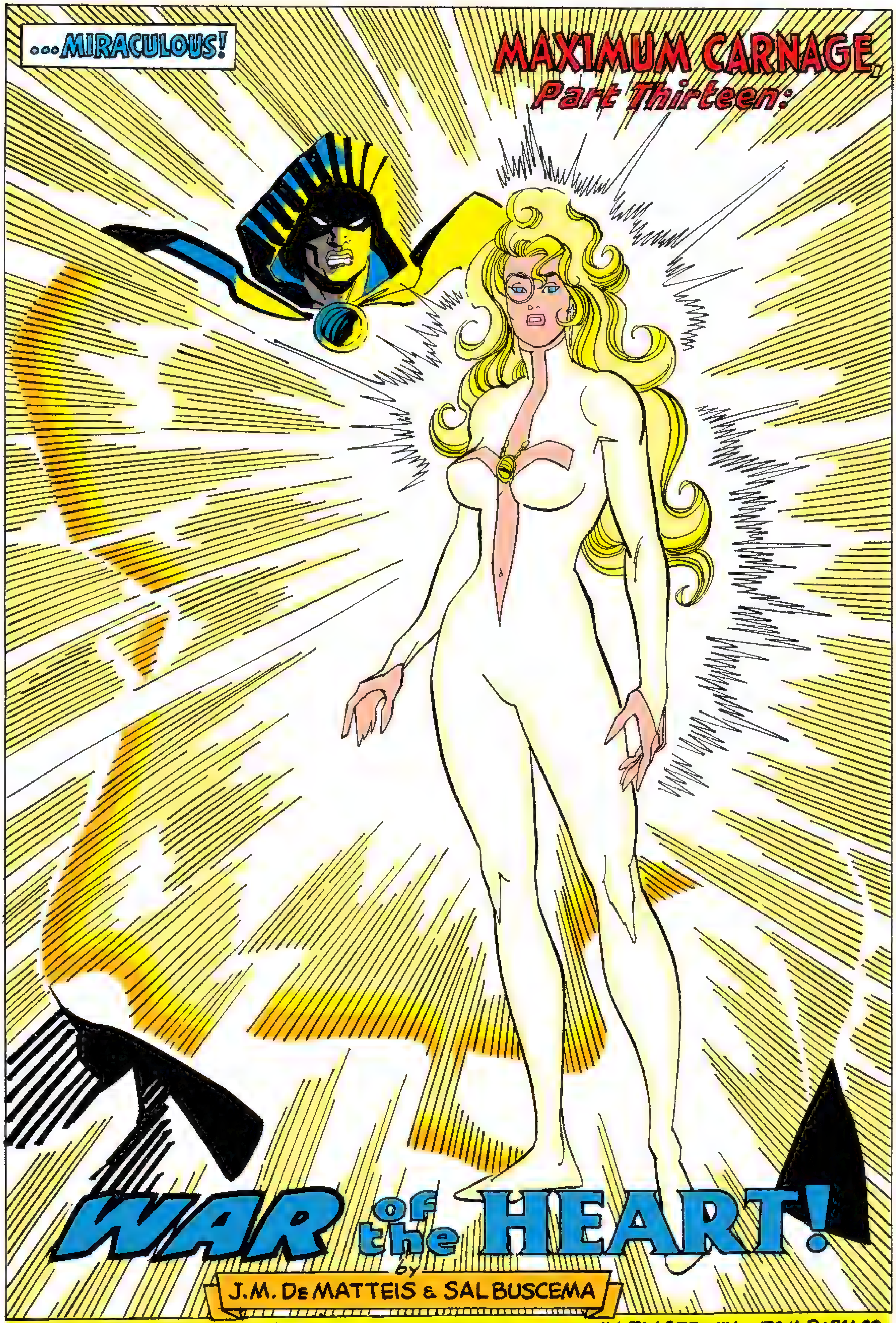
BITTEN BY A RADIOACTIVE SPIDER, STUDENT **PETER PARKER** GAINED THE PROPORTIONATE STRENGTH AND AGILITY OF AN ARACHNID! ARMED WITH HIS WONDROUS WEB-SHOOTERS, THE RELUCTANT SUPER HERO STRUGGLES WITH SINISTER SUPER-VILLAINS, MAKING ENDS MEET, AND MAINTAINING SOME SEMBLANCE OF A NORMAL LIFE!

Stan Lee PRESENTS:

THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN!™


THE LIGHT!
IT'S SUDDENLY EVERYWHERE...
...FLOODING THESE MANHATTAN STREETS... BRIGHTER THAN THE MORNING SUN!
AND THOSE GATHERED HERE--WHO, MOMENTS BEFORE, WERE PREPARING FOR THE FINAL BATTLE IN A GRISLY WAR THAT HAS BEEN TEARING THIS CITY APART FOR DAYS...
...STOP DEAD IN THEIR TRACKS...
...AWESTRUCK... OVERWHELMED... BY A SIGHT THAT CAN ONLY BE CALLED...


...MIRACULOUS!

MAXIMUM CARNAGE, Part Thirteen:

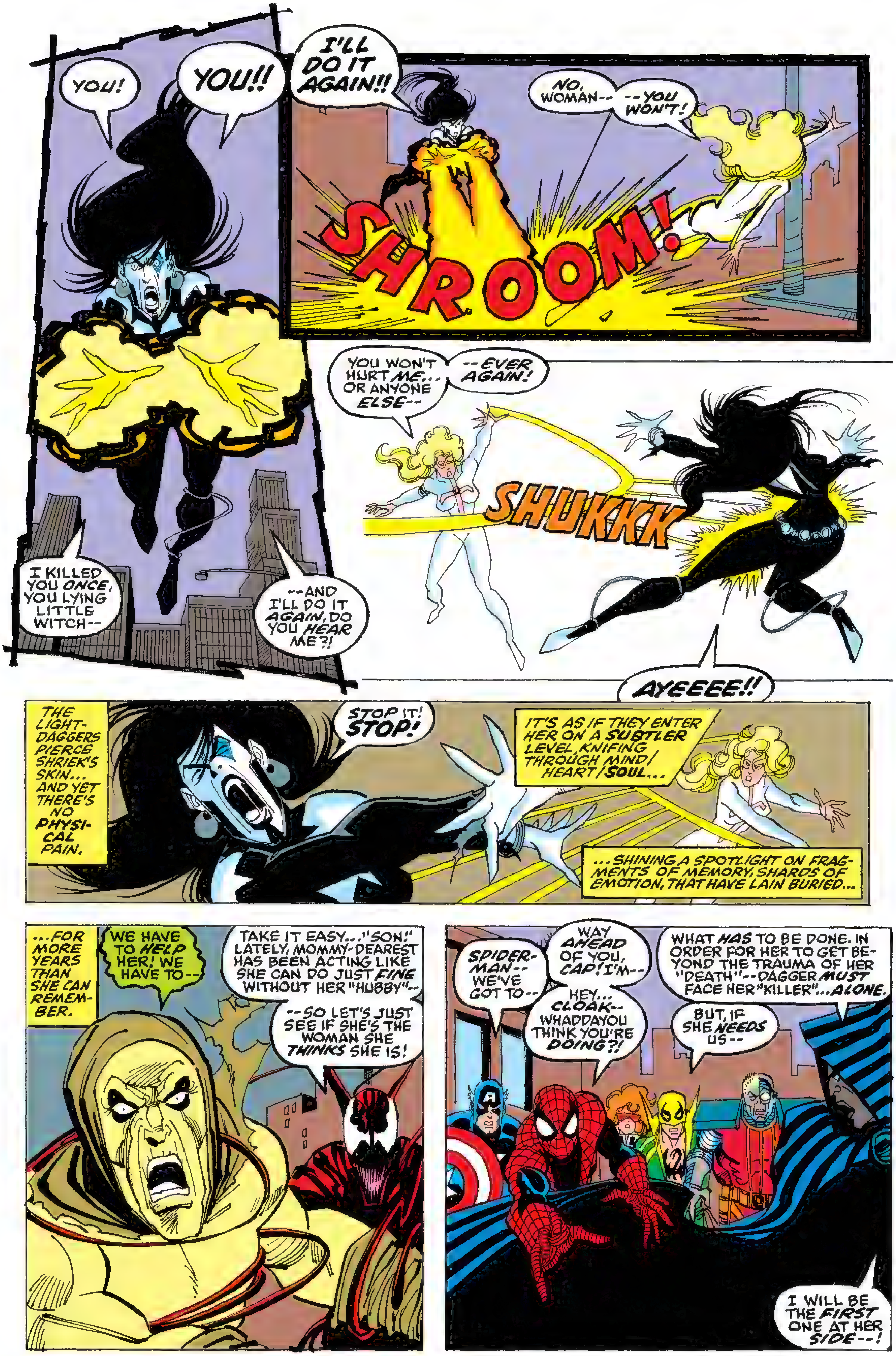
WAR of the HEART!

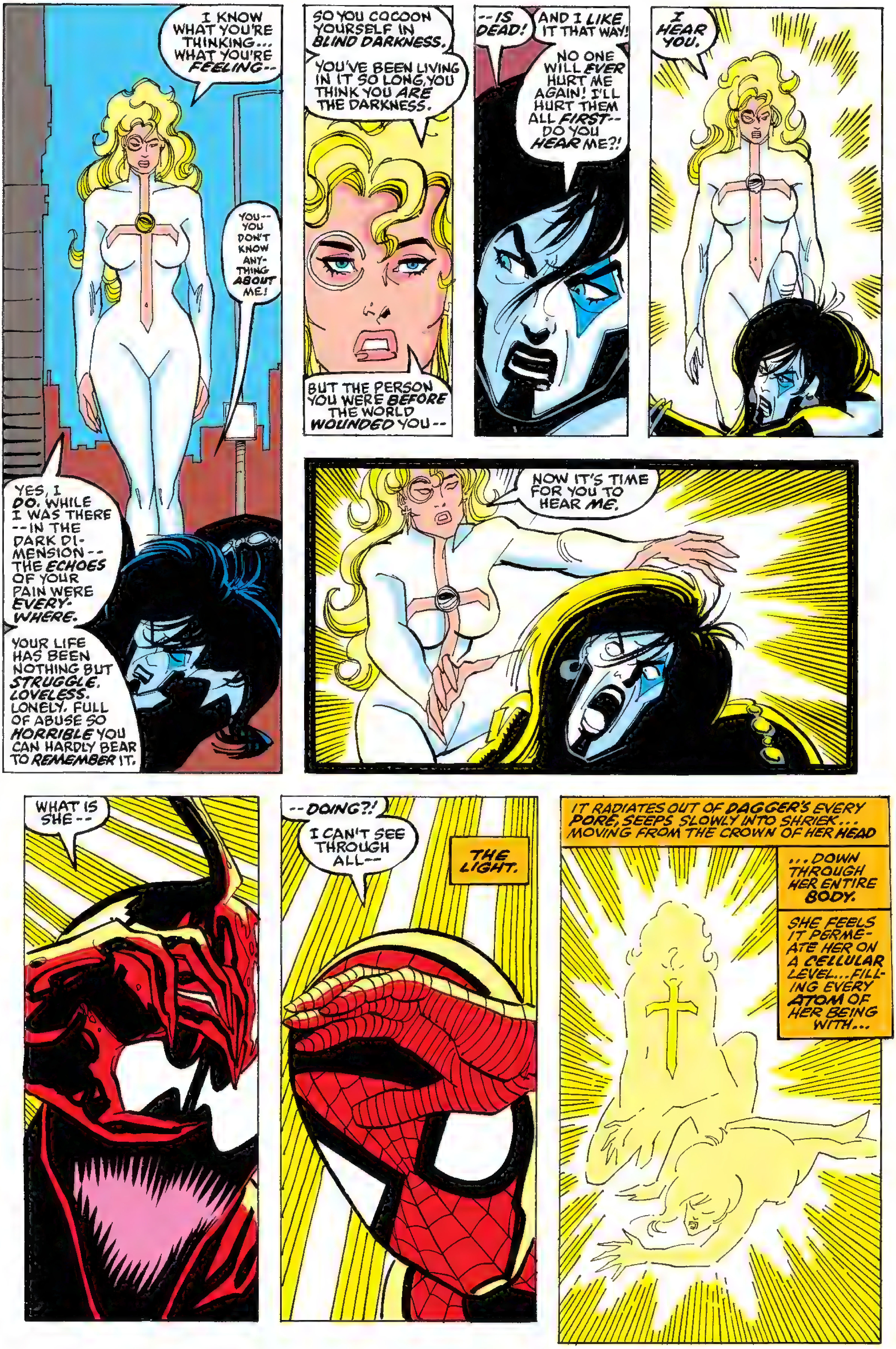
by

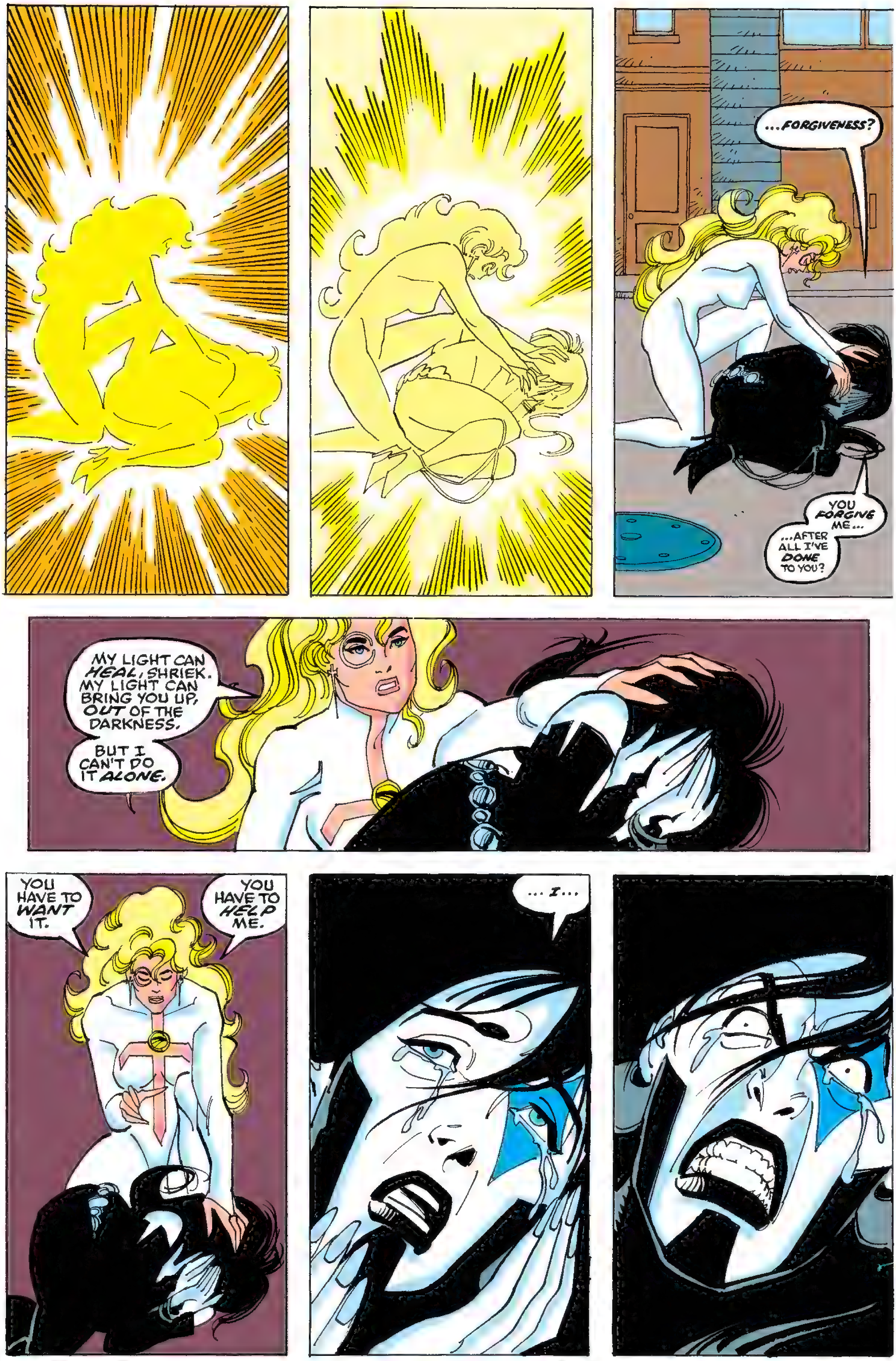
J.M. DeMATTEIS & SAL BUSCEMA

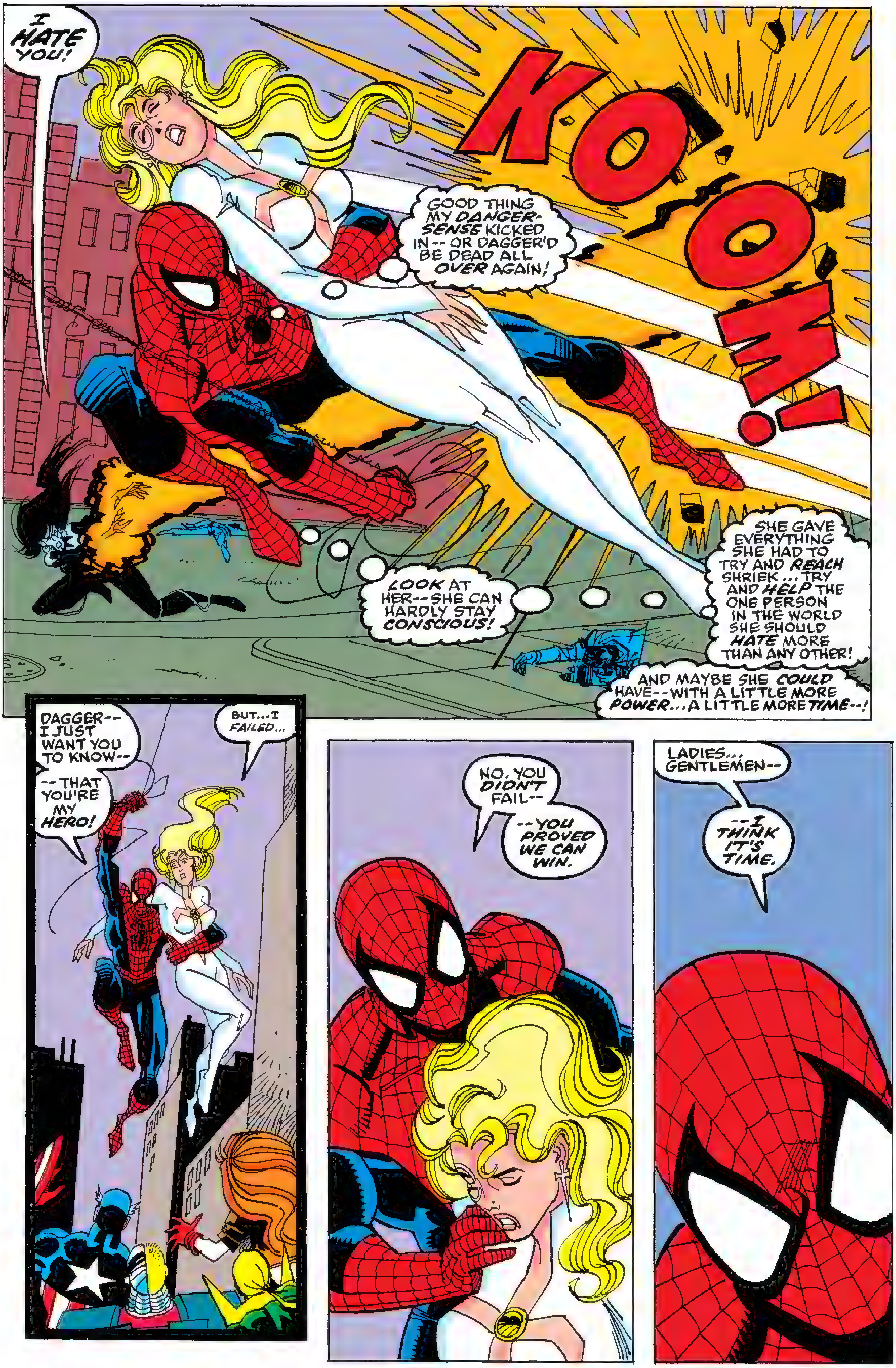
JOE ROSEN LETTERER
MATTHYS/ANDREANI COLORISTS
ROB TOKAR EDITOR
DANNY FINGEROTH GROUP EDITOR
TOM DeFALCO EDITOR IN CHIEF

NO! IT CAN'T BE!
I KILLED HER!
I KILLED HER!!
DON'T GET ME WRONG, DAGGER-- I MEAN I'M HAPPY T'SEE YOU AND ALL--
--BUT... AH... SHRIEK'S RIGHT. YOU'RE--
DEAD? I SUPPOSE I WAS... IN A SENSE.
SHRIEK'S ATTACK SOMEHOW CAUSED MY LIGHT-POWERS TO... FEED BACK. CONSUME ME... TRANSFORM ME.
I LITERALLY... BECAME THE LIGHT.
BUT THE ENERGY WAS TOO MUCH FOR ME TO CONTAIN. I... EXPLODED.* MY VERY ESSENCE UNRAVELED--
*IN WEB OF SPIDER-MAN #101. --ROB
ANOTHER FEW SECONDS AND I WOULD HAVE BEEN DEAD. LESS THAN DEAD: SCATTERED FOREVER... ON THE NIGHT WINDS. BUT I FOUND REFUGE--
--WITHIN CLOAK. I DREW MY FRAGMENTING CONSCIOUSNESS INTO HIS CAPE--
--DRIFTING THERE, ALL THIS TIME, IN THE DARK DIMENSION--
IT WAS ONLY MY DEEP CONNECTION TO TY... THE LOVE THAT BINDS US... THAT KEPT ME SANE. GAVE ME THE STRENGTH TO HANG ON--
"--LITERALLY PULL MYSELF BACK TOGETHER."
"WITHOUT HIM... WITHOUT OUR LOVE FOR EACH OTHER... I WOULD HAVE BEEN LOST."
NONONONONO!!
I WAS IN THERE! IT'S HORRIBLE! HORRIBLE! NOTHING CAN HELP YOU! NOTHING CAN SAVE YOU!
LOVE LEAST OF ALL!
"MOTHER"... PLEASE-- DON'T UPSET YOURSELF LIKE THIS! I--
GET THIS STRAIGHT, CARRION--
I AM NOT YOUR MOTHER!!
SHRAAK!

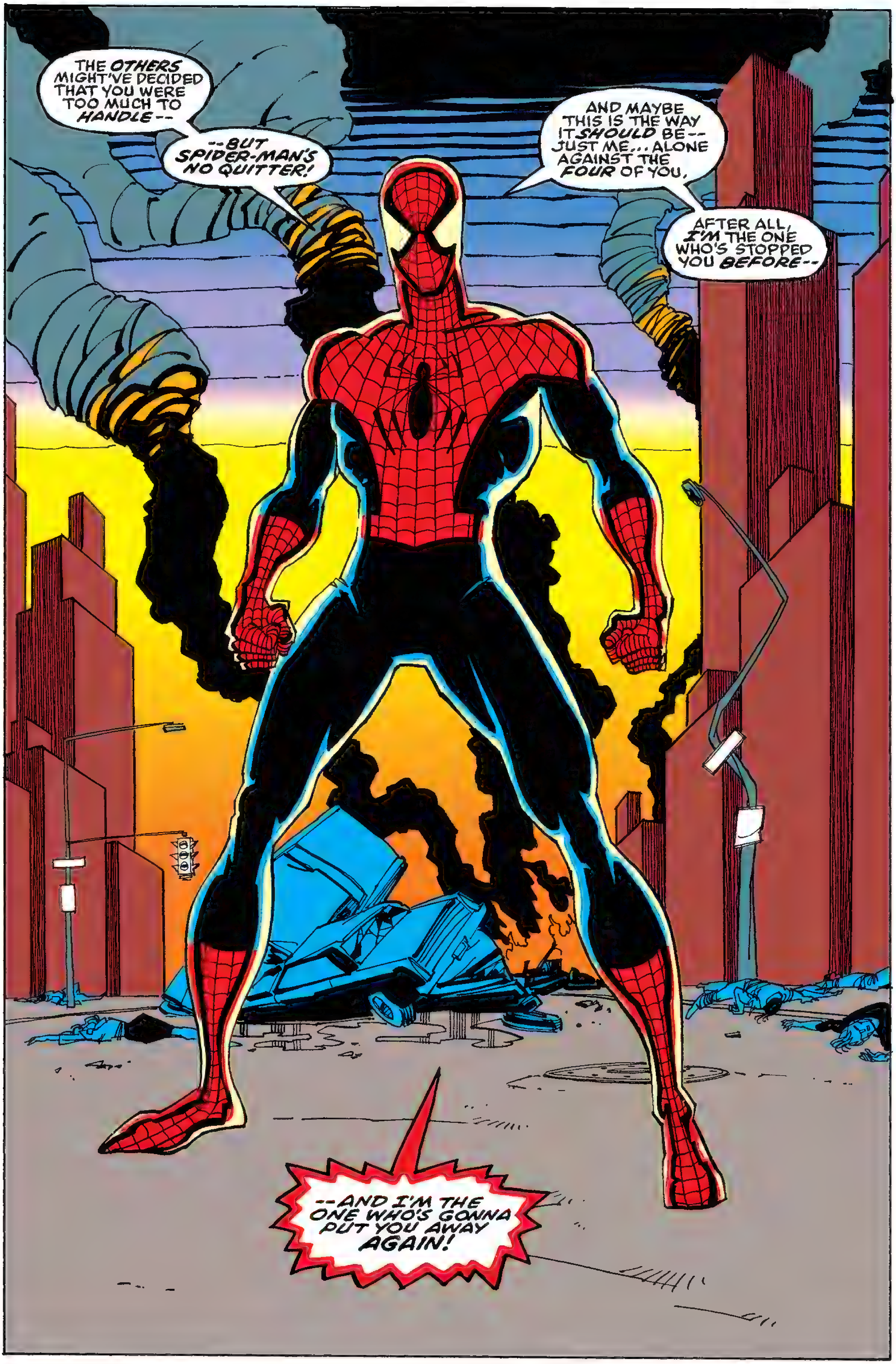

YOU!
YOU!!
I'LL DO IT AGAIN!!
I KILLED YOU ONCE, YOU LYING LITTLE WITCH--
--AND I'LL DO IT AGAIN, DO YOU HEAR ME?!
NO, WOMAN--
--YOU WON'T!
SHROOM!
YOU WON'T HURT ME... OR ANYONE ELSE--
--EVER AGAIN!
SHUKKK
AYEEEE!!
THE LIGHT-DAGGERS PIERCE SHRIEK'S SKIN... AND YET THERE'S NO PHYSICAL PAIN.
STOP IT! STOP!
IT'S AS IF THEY ENTER HER ON A SUBTLER LEVEL, KNIFING THROUGH MIND/ HEART/ SOUL...
...SHINING A SPOTLIGHT ON FRAGMENTS OF MEMORY, SHARDS OF EMOTION, THAT HAVE LAIN BURIED...
...FOR MORE YEARS THAN SHE CAN REMEMBER.
WE HAVE TO HELP HER! WE HAVE TO--
TAKE IT EASY... "SON." LATELY, MOMMY-DEAREST HAS BEEN ACTING LIKE SHE CAN DO JUST FINE WITHOUT HER "HUBBY"--
--SO LET'S JUST SEE IF SHE'S THE WOMAN SHE THINKS SHE IS!
SPIDER-MAN--WE'VE GOT TO--
WAY AHEAD OF YOU, CAP! I'M--
HEY... CLOAK--WHADDAYOU THINK YOU'RE DOING?!
WHAT HAS TO BE DONE. IN ORDER FOR HER TO GET BEYOND THE TRAUMA OF HER "DEATH"--DAGGER MUST FACE HER "KILLER"... ALONE.
BUT, IF SHE NEEDS US--
I WILL BE THE FIRST ONE AT HER SIDE--!


I KNOW WHAT YOU'RE THINKING... WHAT YOU'RE *FEELING*--
YOU-- YOU DON'T KNOW ANYTHING *ABOUT* ME!
YES, I *DO*. WHILE I WAS THERE --IN THE DARK DIMENSION-- THE *ECHOES* OF YOUR PAIN WERE *EVERYWHERE*.
YOUR LIFE HAS BEEN NOTHING BUT *STRUGGLE*. *LOVELESS*. LONELY. FULL OF ABUSE SO *HORRIBLE* YOU CAN HARDLY BEAR TO *REMEMBER* IT.
SO YOU COCOON YOURSELF IN *BLIND DARKNESS*.
YOU'VE BEEN LIVING IN IT SO LONG, YOU THINK YOU *ARE* THE DARKNESS.
BUT THE PERSON YOU WERE *BEFORE* THE WORLD *WOUNDED* YOU--
--*IS DEAD!*
AND I *LIKE* IT THAT WAY!
NO ONE WILL *EVER* HURT ME AGAIN! I'LL HURT THEM ALL *FIRST*-- DO YOU *HEAR* ME?!
I HEAR YOU.
NOW IT'S TIME FOR YOU TO HEAR *ME*.
WHAT IS SHE--
--*DOING?!*
I CAN'T SEE THROUGH ALL--
THE LIGHT.
IT RADIATES OUT OF DAGGER'S EVERY PORE, SEEPS SLOWLY INTO SHRIEK... MOVING FROM THE CROWN OF HER HEAD
...DOWN THROUGH HER ENTIRE BODY.
SHE FEELS IT PERMEATE HER ON A CELLULAR LEVEL...FILLING EVERY ATOM OF HER BEING WITH...


...FORGIVENESS?
YOU FORGIVE ME... ...AFTER ALL I'VE DONE TO YOU?
MY LIGHT CAN HEAL, SHRIEK. MY LIGHT CAN BRING YOU UP, OUT OF THE DARKNESS.
BUT I CAN'T DO IT ALONE.
YOU HAVE TO WANT IT.
YOU HAVE TO HELP ME.
... I ...

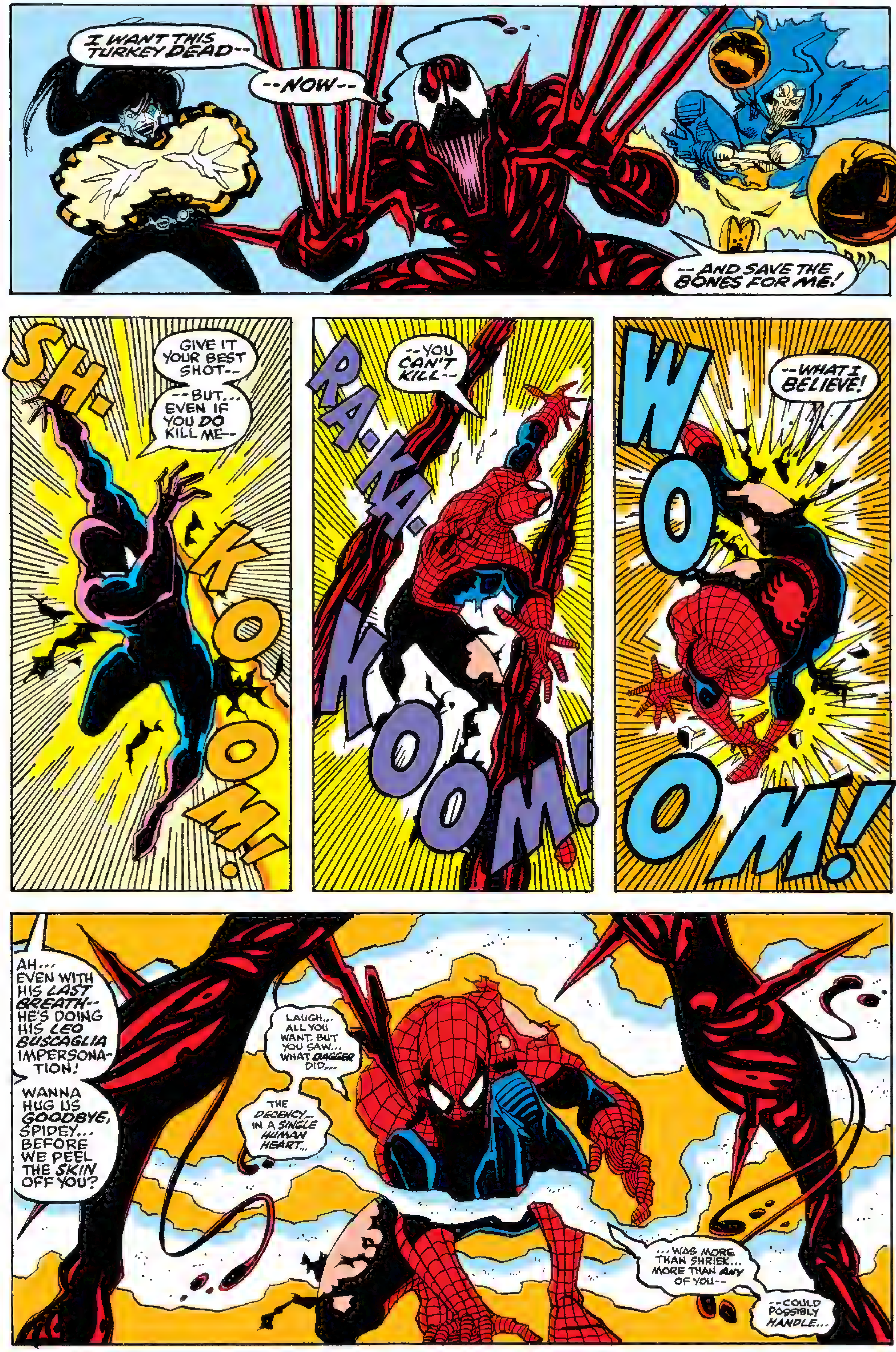

I HATE YOU!
KA-BOOOOM!
GOOD THING MY DANGER-SENSE KICKED IN-- OR DAGGER'D BE DEAD ALL OVER AGAIN!
LOOK AT HER-- SHE CAN HARDLY STAY CONSCIOUS!
SHE GAVE EVERYTHING SHE HAD TO TRY AND REACH SHRIEK... TRY AND HELP THE ONE PERSON IN THE WORLD SHE SHOULD HATE MORE THAN ANY OTHER!
AND MAYBE SHE COULD HAVE-- WITH A LITTLE MORE POWER... A LITTLE MORE TIME--!
DAGGER-- I JUST WANT YOU TO KNOW--
--THAT YOU'RE MY HERO!
BUT... I FAILED...
NO, YOU DIDN'T FAIL--
--YOU PROVED WE CAN WIN.
LADIES... GENTLEMEN--
--I THINK IT'S TIME.

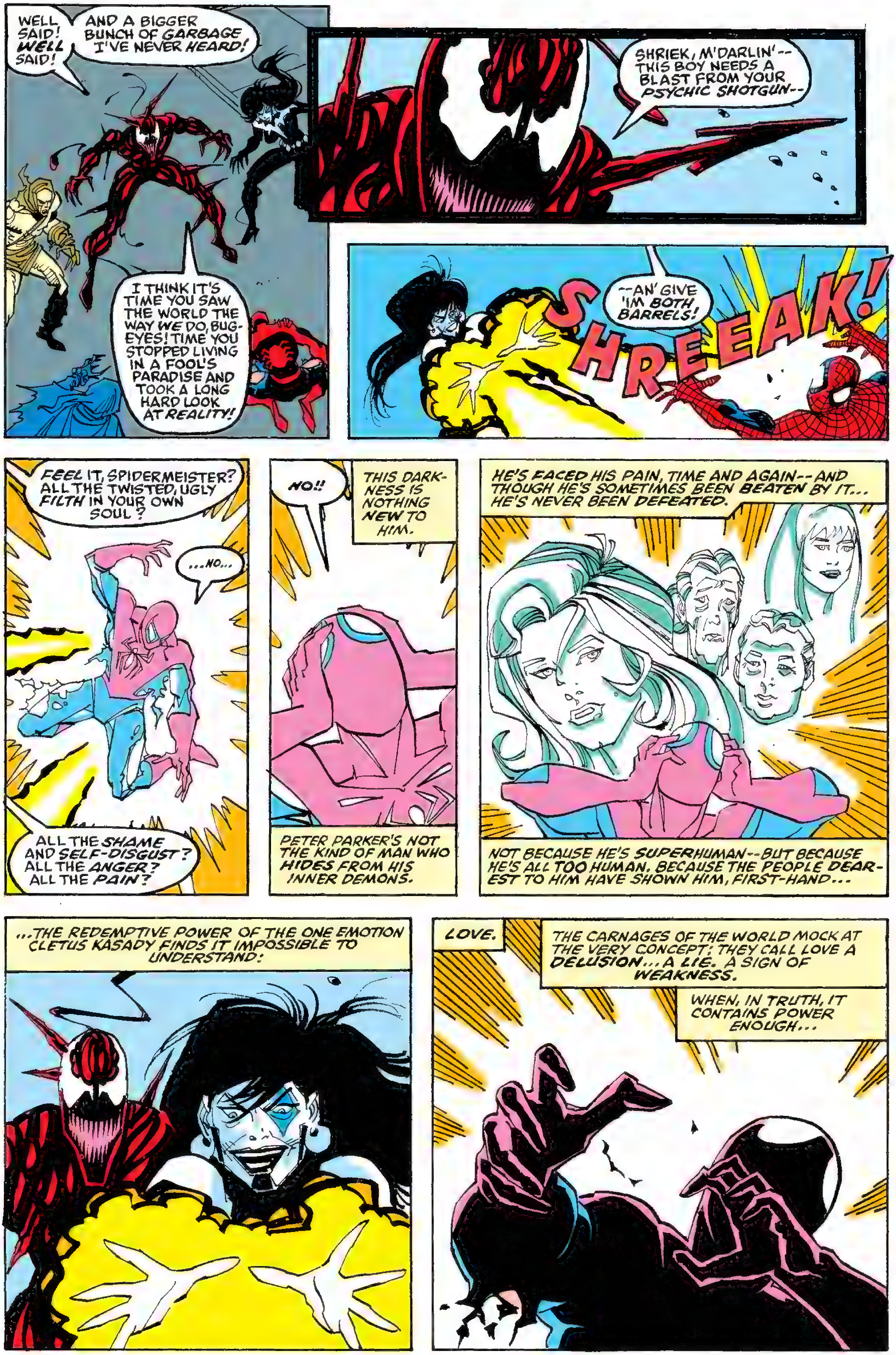
...HELLO, DEAR. HOW'RE YOU *FEELING*?
DISGUSTING.
SOUNDS *RIGHT.*
Y'KNOW, I WAS GETTING WORRIED ABOUT YOU FOR A MINUTE THERE--
LOOKED LIKE YOU WERE GOING TO *SWITCH SIDES*--
SHE SHOWED ME SOMETHING... INSIDE MYSELF... THAT I HAVEN'T SEEN FOR SO *LONG*--
WELL, AT LEAST YOU CAME TO YOUR *SENSES.*
YOU *DID* COME TO YOUR SENSES, *DIDN'T* YOU?
O-OF COURSE. I...I WON'T BE FOOLED BY *HER*--
--OR BY *ANY* OF THOSE WHITE HATS!
I'VE BEEN *LIED* TO...ONE TOO MANY *TIMES!*
GOOOOD!
THEN--WE'RE A HAPPY DYSFUNCTIONAL *FAMILY* AGAIN!
WHICH MEANS WE CAN GO *MASSACRE* THOSE SELF-RIGHTEOUS PEACOCKS AND GET ON WITH OUR--
WHAT?!!
THEY--
--*RAN AWAY?!?!*
THEY *RAN AWAY!!*
HAHAHAHAHA--
NOT *ALL* OF US, CARNAGE--
HUH?!

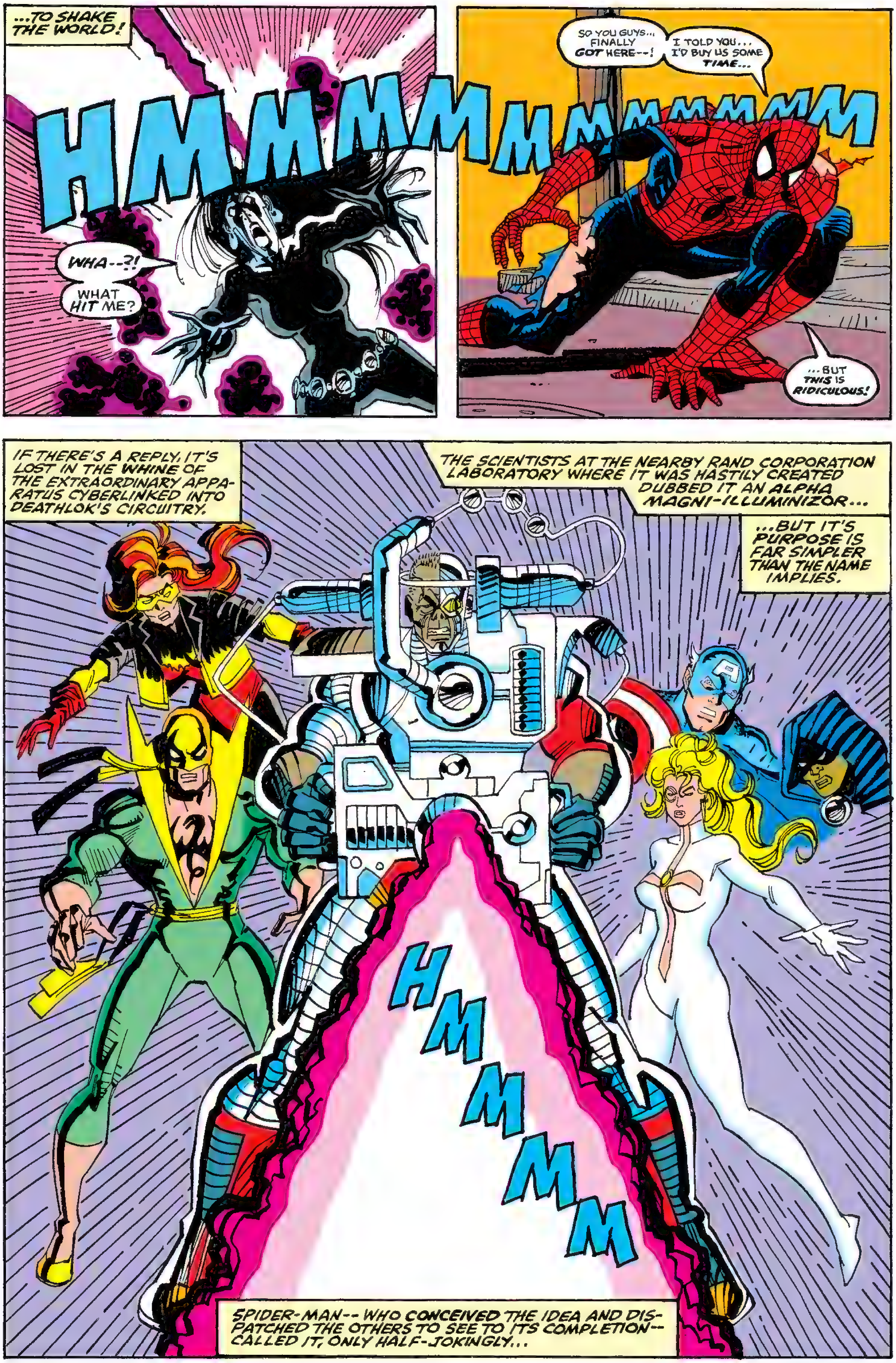

THE *OTHERS* MIGHT'VE DECIDED THAT YOU WERE TOO MUCH TO *HANDLE*--
--BUT SPIDER-MAN'S NO QUITTER!
AND MAYBE THIS IS THE WAY IT *SHOULD* BE-- JUST ME... ALONE AGAINST THE *FOUR* OF YOU.
AFTER ALL, *I'M* THE ONE WHO'S STOPPED YOU *BEFORE*--
--AND I'M THE ONE WHO'S GONNA PUT YOU AWAY AGAIN!

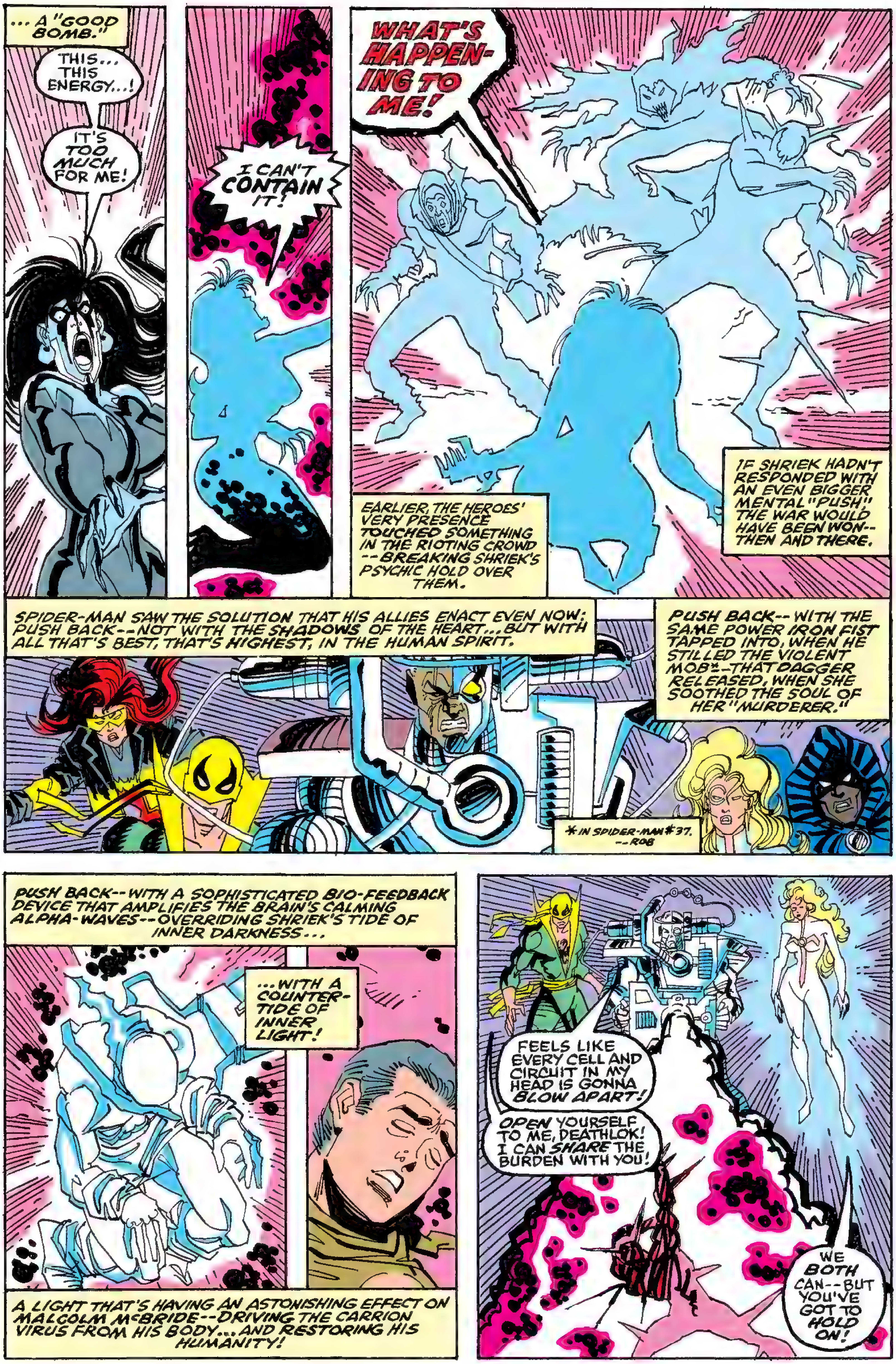
YOU MAY HAVE PUT THE REST OF MY FAMILY AWAY--BUT YOU'VE NEVER STOPPED ME! AND I'M GOING TO--
SHUT UP, SHRIEK! AFTER THE PATHETIC DISPLAY YOU PUT ON TODAY, I DON'T WANT TO HEAR ANOTHER WORD OUT OF YOU!
CONSIDERING THE WAY YOU CARRIED ON WHEN FIRE-STAR NEARLY FRIED YOU*--
--YOU'VE GOT A LOT OF NERVE TALKING TO ME LIKE THAT--
WHY DON'T YOU BOTH SHUT YOUR MOUTHS--
*LAST ISSUE. --ROB.
--AND GET TO THE BUSINESS AT HAND--
--THE MURDER OF SPIDER-MAN!
EASIER SAID THAN DONE, DEMOGOBLIN!
KOOM!
KOOM!
I'M BREAKING UP THIS SICK LITTLE "FAMILY" OF YOURS--
--STARTING WITH YOUR PATHETIC "FATHER"!
THOOM!
THAT'S YOUR LAST SHOT, SPIDSTER--
--'CAUSE YOU'RE GOING STRAIGHT INTO THE VEG-O-MATIC--
--FOR SOME SLICING AND DICING!
HEEHEEHEE! I REALLY CRACK ME UP!

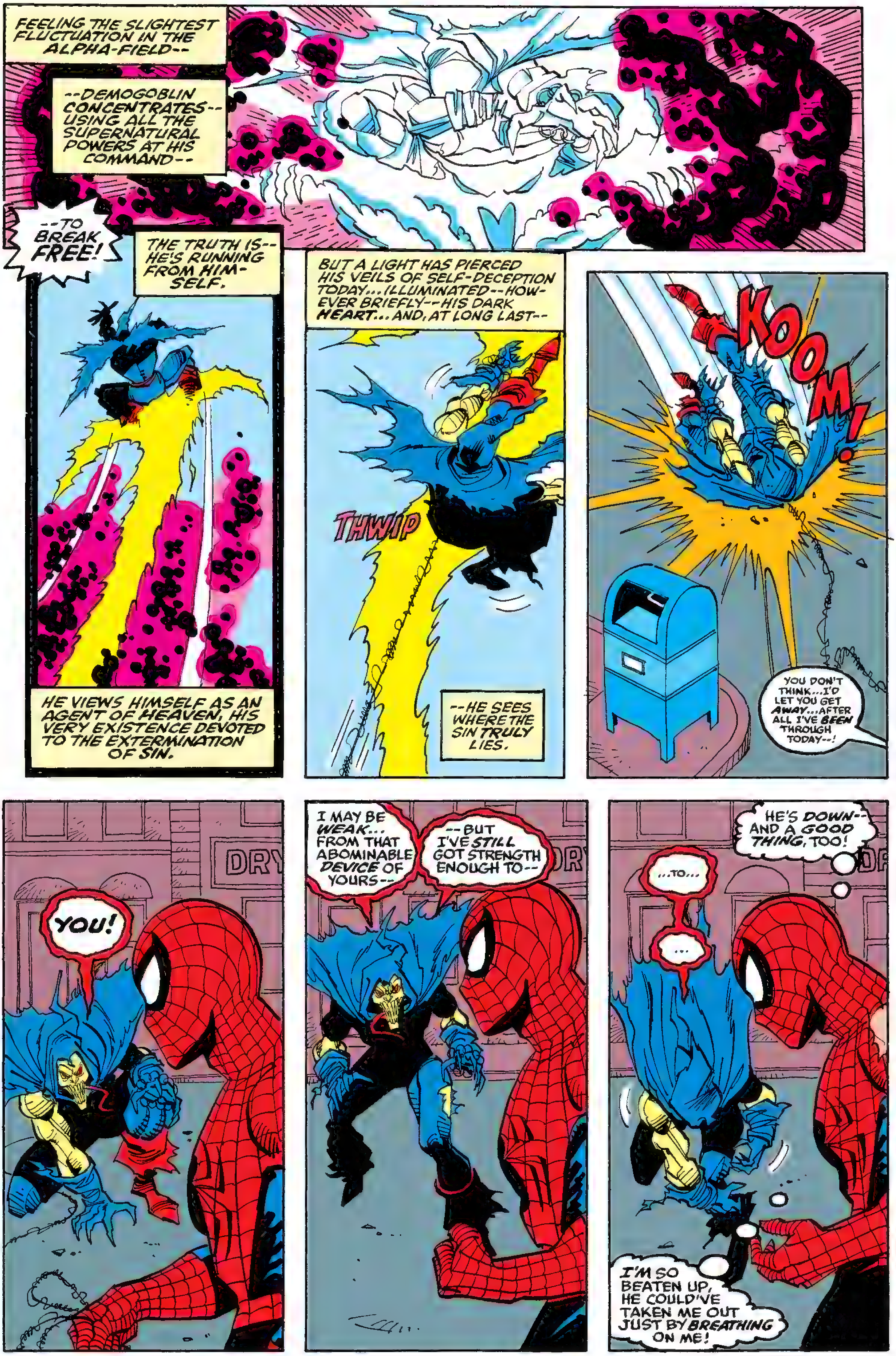
YOU THINK THIS IS FUNNY?!
YOU TREAT HUMAN LIFE LIKE IT WAS SOMETHING UTTERLY DISPOSABLE... CAUSE GRIEF AND SUFFERING ON A MASS SCALE--
--AND YOU ACTUALLY THINK IT'S FU--
WHOA! THERE GOES THE SPIDER-SENSE! CARRION-- COMING UP FAST BEHIND ME!
YOU, OF ALL PEOPLE, SHOULD WANT OUT OF THIS, McBRIDE!
CHOOM!
WHEN THAT VIRUS TURNED YOU INTO CARRION-- YOU WERE AS MUCH AN INNOCENT VICTIM AS THE PEOPLE CARNAGE HAS BEEN SLAUGHTERING!
STAY AWAY FROM HIM, "SON"!!
SKOOOM!
BOYS LIKE SPIDER-MAN ARE A BAD INFLUENCE!
THWIPP
YOU SAID IT YOURSELF A LITTLE EARLIER, SHRIEK--
--HE'S NO SON OF YOURS!
McBRIDE HAD A REAL MOTHER-- WHO LOVED HIM! WHO'S PROBABLY STILL GRIEVING FOR THE CHILD SHE LOST!
YOU AND CARNAGE AREN'T HIS FAMILY! YOU DON'T EVEN KNOW WHAT THE WORD MEANS!
RAKKK!
THE LITTLE WOMAN AND I MAY NOT BE BIG ON VOCABULARY, SPIDER-MAN--
ARRR!!
SHHOK!
--BUT WE WROTE THE BOOK ON KILLING!


I WANT THIS TURKEY DEAD--
--NOW--
--AND SAVE THE BONES FOR ME!
SH-KOOOM!
GIVE IT YOUR BEST SHOT--
--BUT... EVEN IF YOU DO KILL ME--
RA-KA-KOOOM!
--YOU CAN'T KILL--
WOOOM!
--WHAT I BELIEVE!
AH... EVEN WITH HIS LAST BREATH-- HE'S DOING HIS LEO BUSCAGLIA IMPERSONATION!
WANNA HUG US GOODBYE, SPIDEY... BEFORE WE PEEL THE SKIN OFF YOU?
LAUGH... ALL YOU WANT. BUT YOU SAW... WHAT DAGGER DID...
THE DECENCY... IN A SINGLE HUMAN HEART...
...WAS MORE THAN SHRIEK... MORE THAN ANY OF YOU--
--COULD POSSIBLY HANDLE...


WELL SAID! WELL SAID!
AND A BIGGER BUNCH OF GARBAGE I'VE NEVER HEARD!
SHRIEK, M'DARLIN'-- THIS BOY NEEDS A BLAST FROM YOUR PSYCHIC SHOTGUN--
I THINK IT'S TIME YOU SAW THE WORLD THE WAY WE DO, BUG-EYES! TIME YOU STOPPED LIVING IN A FOOL'S PARADISE AND TOOK A LONG HARD LOOK AT REALITY!
--AN' GIVE 'IM BOTH BARRELS!
SHREEAK!
FEEL IT, SPIDERMEISTER? ALL THE TWISTED, UGLY FILTH IN YOUR OWN SOUL?
...NO...
ALL THE SHAME AND SELF-DISGUST? ALL THE ANGER? ALL THE PAIN?
NO!!
THIS DARKNESS IS NOTHING NEW TO HIM.
PETER PARKER'S NOT THE KIND OF MAN WHO HIDES FROM HIS INNER DEMONS.
HE'S FACED HIS PAIN, TIME AND AGAIN-- AND THOUGH HE'S SOMETIMES BEEN BEATEN BY IT... HE'S NEVER BEEN DEFEATED.
NOT BECAUSE HE'S SUPERHUMAN--BUT BECAUSE HE'S ALL TOO HUMAN. BECAUSE THE PEOPLE DEAREST TO HIM HAVE SHOWN HIM, FIRST-HAND...
...THE REDEMPTIVE POWER OF THE ONE EMOTION CLETUS KASADY FINDS IT IMPOSSIBLE TO UNDERSTAND:
LOVE.
THE CARNAGES OF THE WORLD MOCK AT THE VERY CONCEPT; THEY CALL LOVE A DELUSION... A LIE. A SIGN OF WEAKNESS.
WHEN, IN TRUTH, IT CONTAINS POWER ENOUGH...

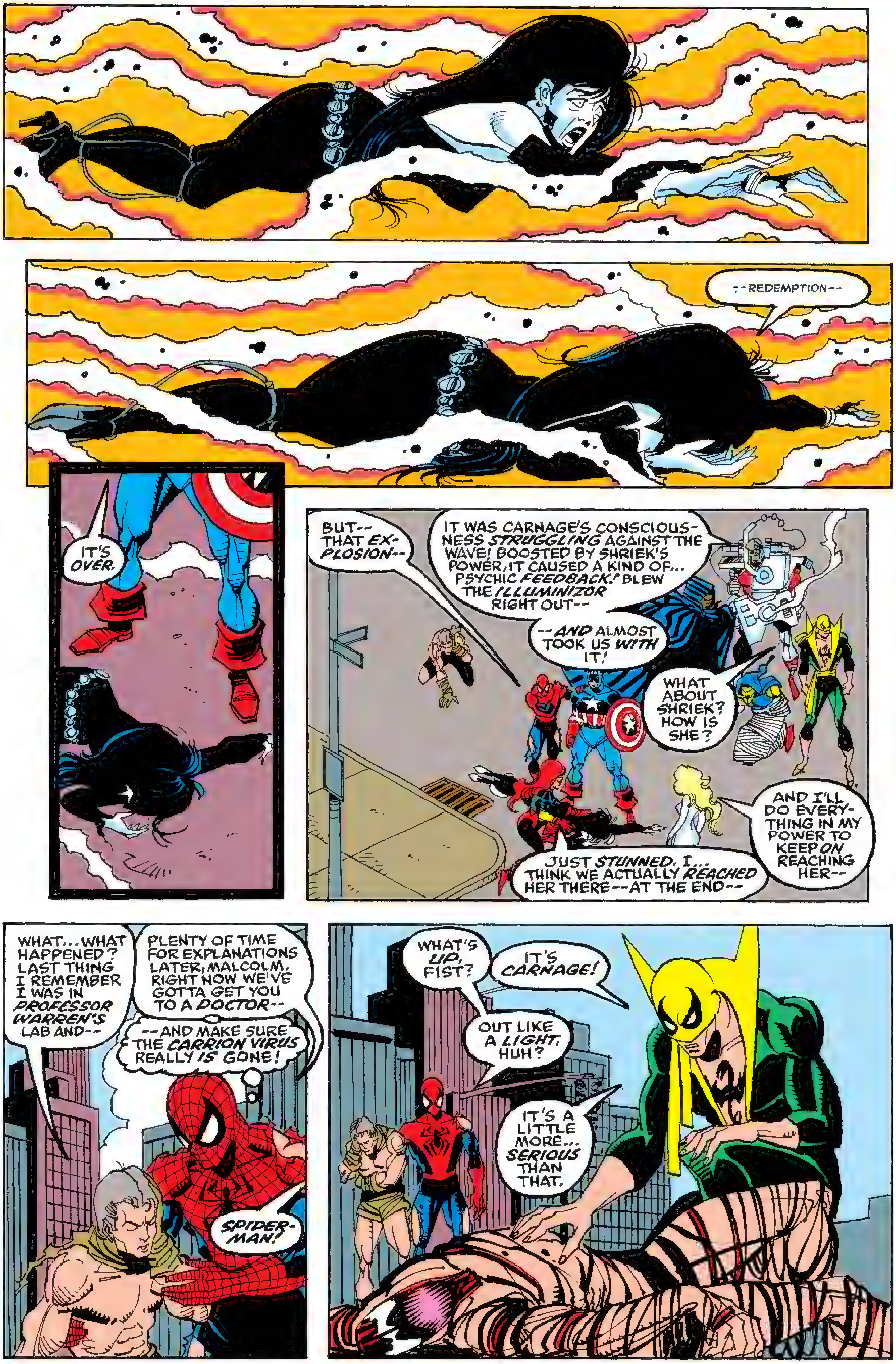

...TO SHAKE THE WORLD!
HMMMMMMMMMMMMMM
WHA--?!
WHAT HIT ME?
SO YOU GUYS... FINALLY GOT HERE--!
I TOLD YOU... I'D BUY US SOME TIME...
...BUT THIS IS RIDICULOUS!
IF THERE'S A REPLY, IT'S LOST IN THE WHINE OF THE EXTRAORDINARY APPARATUS CYBERLINKED INTO DEATHLOK'S CIRCUITRY.
THE SCIENTISTS AT THE NEARBY RAND CORPORATION LABORATORY WHERE IT WAS HASTILY CREATED DUBBED IT AN ALPHA MAGNI-ILLUMINIZOR...
...BUT IT'S PURPOSE IS FAR SIMPLER THAN THE NAME IMPLIES.
HMMMMM
SPIDER-MAN-- WHO CONCEIVED THE IDEA AND DISPATCHED THE OTHERS TO SEE TO ITS COMPLETION-- CALLED IT, ONLY HALF-JOKINGLY...

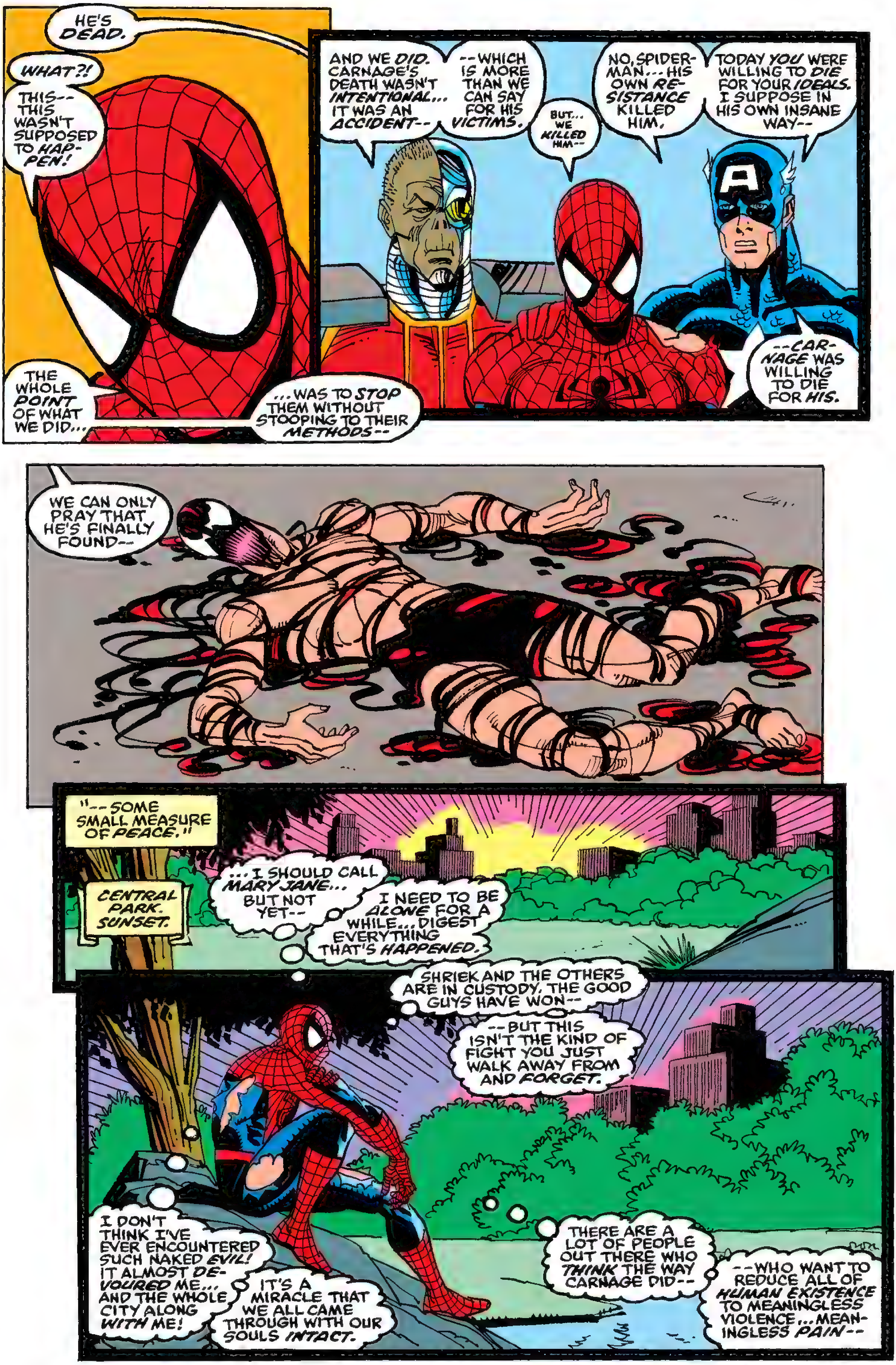

...A "GOOD BOMB."
THIS... THIS ENERGY...!
IT'S TOO MUCH FOR ME!
I CAN'T CONTAIN IT!
WHAT'S HAPPENING TO ME!
EARLIER, THE HEROES' VERY PRESENCE TOUCHED SOMETHING IN THE RIOTING CROWD --BREAKING SHRIEK'S PSYCHIC HOLD OVER THEM.
IF SHRIEK HADN'T RESPONDED WITH AN EVEN BIGGER MENTAL "PUSH" THE WAR WOULD HAVE BEEN WON-- THEN AND THERE.
SPIDER-MAN SAW THE SOLUTION THAT HIS ALLIES ENACT EVEN NOW: PUSH BACK--NOT WITH THE SHADOWS OF THE HEART... BUT WITH ALL THAT'S BEST, THAT'S HIGHEST, IN THE HUMAN SPIRIT.
PUSH BACK-- WITH THE SAME POWER IRON FIST TAPPED INTO, WHEN HE STILLED THE VIOLENT MOB*--THAT DAGGER RELEASED, WHEN SHE SOOTHED THE SOUL OF HER "MURDERER."
*IN SPIDER-MAN #37. --ROB
PUSH BACK--WITH A SOPHISTICATED BIO-FEEDBACK DEVICE THAT AMPLIFIES THE BRAIN'S CALMING ALPHA-WAVES--OVERRIDING SHRIEK'S TIDE OF INNER DARKNESS...
...WITH A COUNTER-TIDE OF INNER LIGHT!
A LIGHT THAT'S HAVING AN ASTONISHING EFFECT ON MALCOLM McBRIDE--DRIVING THE CARRION VIRUS FROM HIS BODY... AND RESTORING HIS HUMANITY!
FEELS LIKE EVERY CELL AND CIRCUIT IN MY HEAD IS GONNA BLOW APART!
OPEN YOURSELF TO ME, DEATHLOK! I CAN SHARE THE BURDEN WITH YOU!
WE BOTH CAN--BUT YOU'VE GOT TO HOLD ON!

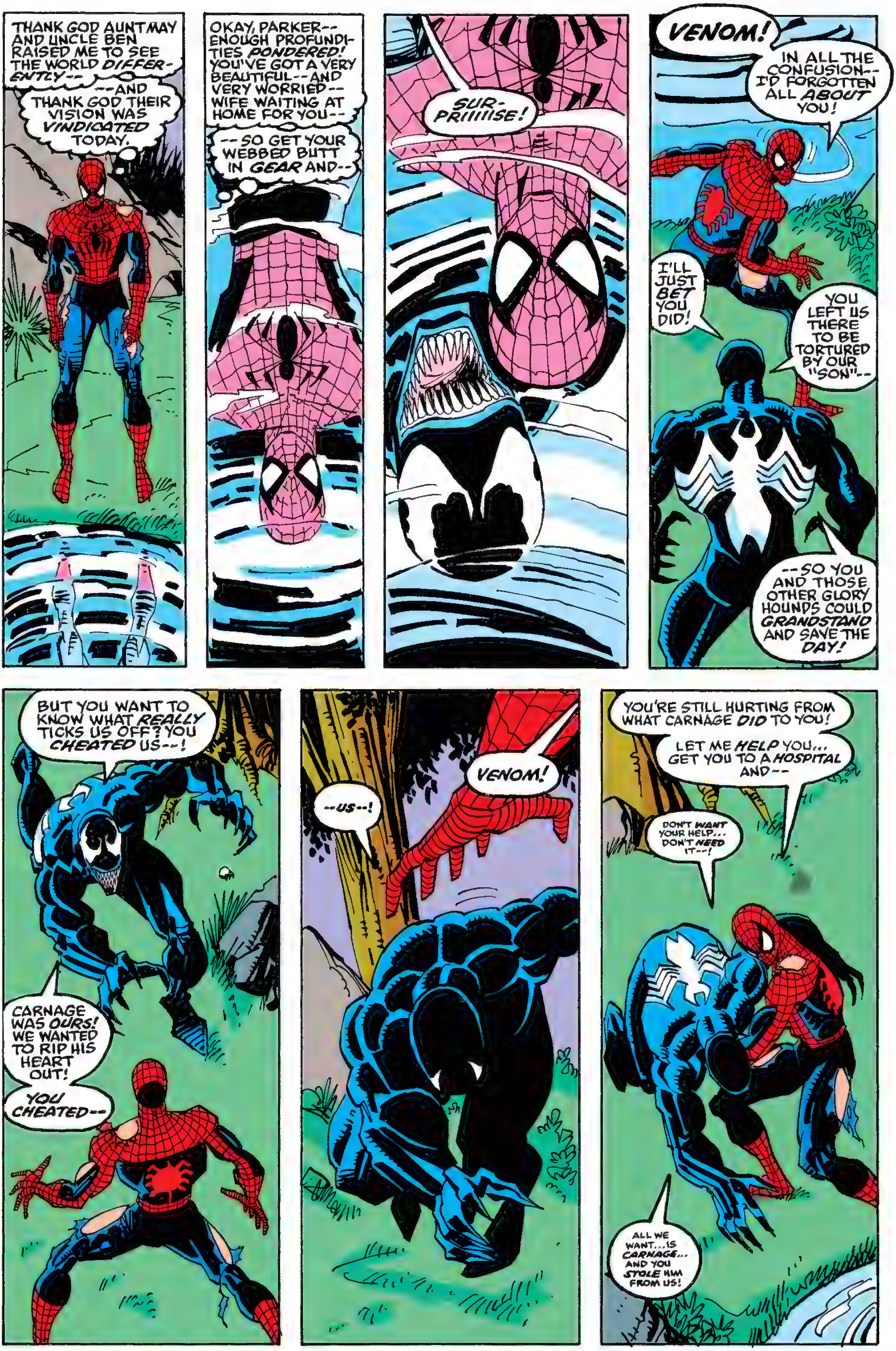

FEELING THE SLIGHTEST FLUCTUATION IN THE ALPHA-FIELD--
--DEMOGOBLIN CONCENTRATES-- USING ALL THE SUPERNATURAL POWERS AT HIS COMMAND--
--TO BREAK FREE!
THE TRUTH IS-- HE'S RUNNING FROM HIMSELF.
HE VIEWS HIMSELF AS AN AGENT OF HEAVEN, HIS VERY EXISTENCE DEVOTED TO THE EXTERMINATION OF SIN.
BUT A LIGHT HAS PIERCED HIS VEILS OF SELF-DECEPTION TODAY... ILLUMINATED--HOWEVER BRIEFLY--HIS DARK HEART... AND, AT LONG LAST--
THWIP
--HE SEES WHERE THE SIN TRULY LIES.
KOOM!
YOU DON'T THINK...I'D LET YOU GET AWAY...AFTER ALL I'VE BEEN THROUGH TODAY--!
DRY
YOU!
I MAY BE WEAK... FROM THAT ABOMINABLE DEVICE OF YOURS--
--BUT I'VE STILL GOT STRENGTH ENOUGH TO--
...TO...
...
HE'S DOWN-- AND A GOOD THING, TOO!
I'M SO BEATEN UP, HE COULD'VE TAKEN ME OUT JUST BY BREATHING ON ME!

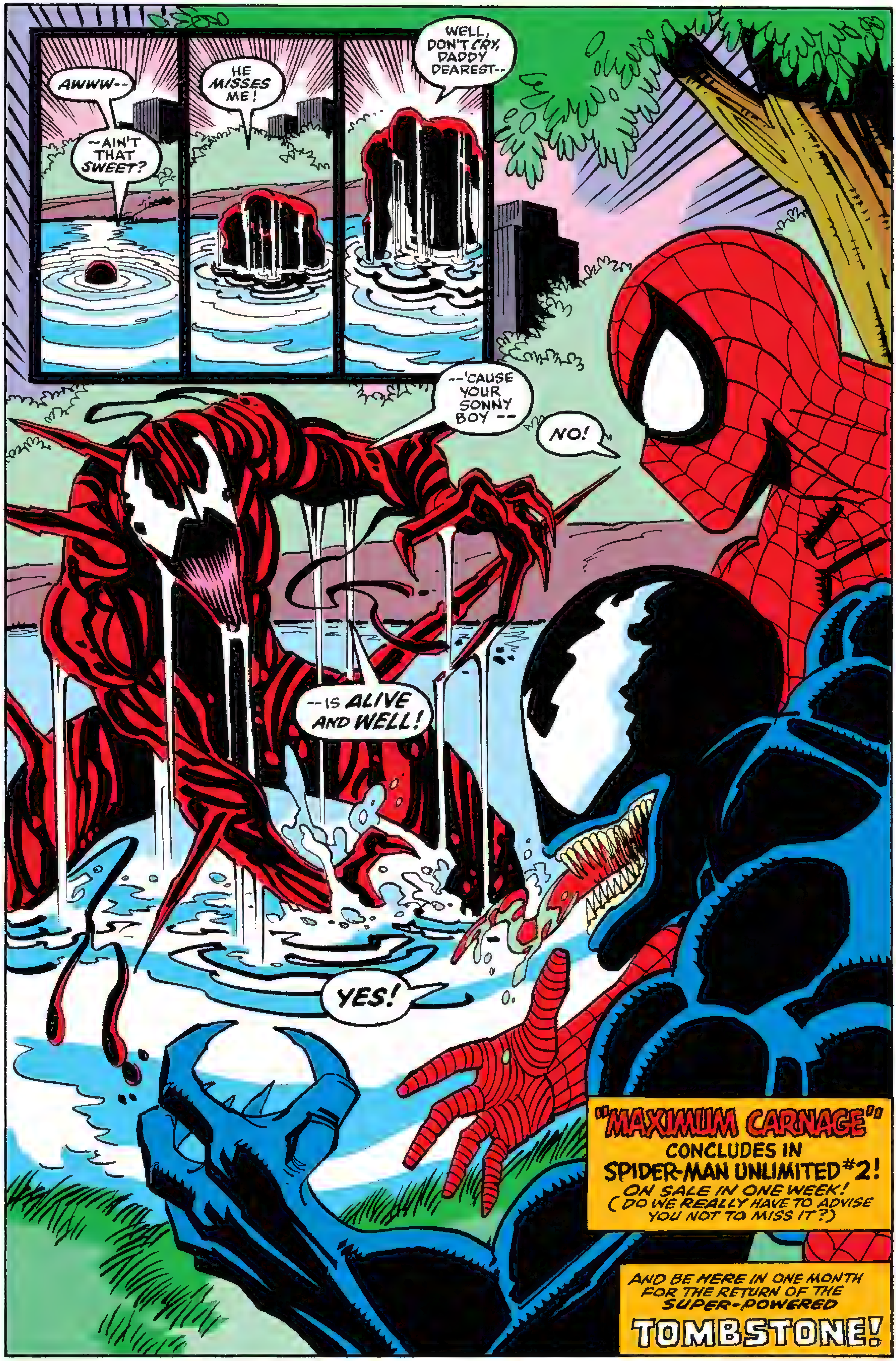
I-I'M... STARTING TO FEEL LIGHT-HEADED-- CAN'T THINK STRAIGHT--!
IT'S CARNAGE! HE'S FIGHTING THE WAVE!
YES! I CAN FEEL HIS MIND TEARING AT US! DESPERATE...FRIGHTENED! WE'VE GOT TO END THIS--SOON--OR--
OR WHAT?
OR HE'LL TAKE US ALL DOWN INTO MADNESS WITH HIM!
STOP THEM!
STOP THEM!
THEY'RE MAKING ME SEE THINGS... FEEL THINGS... THAT I DON'T WANT TO FEEL!
OH, GOD... IT HURTS!
CARNAGE... IT WON'T HURT... IF YOU STOP STRUGGLING AGAINST IT!
CAN'T YOU FEEL IT? THIS IS OUR CHANCE... TO BE SAVED! TO FIND... REDEMPTION--
YOU IDIOT!
THERE IS NO REDEMPTION!
ONLY LIES AND DEATH AND--
PAIN: IT'S ALL HE CAN REMEMBER. ALL HE'S EVER KNOWN.
NEVER A SOFT TOUCH, A KIND WORD. JUST ABUSE SO AWFUL, SO EVIL, THAT HE'S BANISHED IT FROM HIS CONSCIOUS MIND.
THE LIGHT SHINES INTO EVERY DARK CORNER OF CARNAGE'S TORTURED SOUL... OFFERING HEALING, OFFERING HOPE-- BUT, AFTER SO MANY YEARS OF LIVING IN A PITCH-BLACK HELL...
...THESE CONCEPTS ARE BEYOND HIS COMPREHENSION!

CLETUS... TAKE MY *HAND*--!
TOGETHER... WE CAN FIND--
FA-KA-THOOM!


--REDEMPTION--
IT'S OVER.
BUT-- THAT EXPLOSION--
IT WAS CARNAGE'S CONSCIOUSNESS STRUGGLING AGAINST THE WAVE! BOOSTED BY SHRIEK'S POWER, IT CAUSED A KIND OF... PSYCHIC FEEDBACK! BLEW THE ILLUMINIZOR RIGHT OUT--
--AND ALMOST TOOK US WITH IT!
WHAT ABOUT SHRIEK? HOW IS SHE?
JUST STUNNED. I... THINK WE ACTUALLY REACHED HER THERE--AT THE END--
AND I'LL DO EVERYTHING IN MY POWER TO KEEP ON REACHING HER--
WHAT... WHAT HAPPENED? LAST THING I REMEMBER I WAS IN PROFESSOR WARREN'S LAB AND--
PLENTY OF TIME FOR EXPLANATIONS LATER, MALCOLM. RIGHT NOW WE'VE GOTTA GET YOU TO A DOCTOR--
--AND MAKE SURE THE CARRION VIRUS REALLY IS GONE!
SPIDER-MAN!
WHAT'S UP, FIST?
IT'S CARNAGE!
OUT LIKE A LIGHT, HUH?
IT'S A LITTLE MORE... SERIOUS THAN THAT.


HE'S *DEAD.*
WHAT?!
THIS--THIS WASN'T SUPPOSED TO *HAPPEN!*
AND WE *DID.* CARNAGE'S DEATH WASN'T *INTENTIONAL...* IT WAS AN *ACCIDENT--*
--WHICH IS MORE THAN WE CAN SAY FOR HIS *VICTIMS.*
BUT... WE *KILLED* HIM--
NO, SPIDER-MAN... HIS OWN *RESISTANCE* KILLED HIM.
TODAY *YOU* WERE WILLING TO *DIE* FOR YOUR *IDEALS.* I SUPPOSE IN HIS OWN INSANE WAY--
--*CARNAGE* WAS WILLING TO DIE FOR *HIS.*
THE WHOLE *POINT* OF WHAT WE DID...
...WAS TO *STOP* THEM WITHOUT STOOPING TO THEIR *METHODS--*
WE CAN ONLY PRAY THAT HE'S FINALLY FOUND--
"--SOME SMALL MEASURE OF *PEACE.*"
CENTRAL PARK. SUNSET.
...I SHOULD CALL *MARY JANE...* BUT NOT YET--
I NEED TO BE *ALONE* FOR A WHILE... DIGEST EVERYTHING THAT'S *HAPPENED.*
SHRIEK AND THE OTHERS ARE IN CUSTODY. THE GOOD GUYS HAVE WON--
--BUT THIS ISN'T THE KIND OF FIGHT YOU JUST WALK AWAY FROM AND *FORGET.*
I DON'T THINK I'VE EVER ENCOUNTERED SUCH NAKED *EVIL!* IT ALMOST *DEVOURED* ME... AND THE WHOLE CITY ALONG *WITH* ME!
IT'S A MIRACLE THAT WE ALL CAME THROUGH WITH OUR SOULS *INTACT.*
THERE ARE A LOT OF PEOPLE OUT THERE WHO *THINK* THE WAY CARNAGE DID--
--WHO WANT TO REDUCE ALL OF *HUMAN EXISTENCE* TO MEANINGLESS VIOLENCE... MEANINGLESS *PAIN--*


THANK GOD AUNT MAY AND UNCLE BEN RAISED ME TO SEE THE WORLD *DIFFERENTLY*--
--AND THANK GOD THEIR VISION WAS *VINDICATED* TODAY.
OKAY, PARKER-- ENOUGH PROFUNDITIES *PONDERED!* YOU'VE GOT A VERY BEAUTIFUL--AND VERY WORRIED--WIFE WAITING AT HOME FOR YOU--
--SO GET YOUR WEBBED BUTT IN *GEAR* AND--
SUR-PRIIIIISE!
VENOM!
IN ALL THE CONFUSION--I'D FORGOTTEN ALL *ABOUT* YOU!
I'LL JUST *BET* YOU DID!
YOU LEFT US THERE TO BE TORTURED BY OUR "SON"--
--SO YOU AND THOSE OTHER GLORY HOUNDS COULD *GRANDSTAND* AND SAVE THE *DAY!*
BUT YOU WANT TO KNOW WHAT *REALLY* TICKS US OFF? YOU *CHEATED* US--!
CARNAGE WAS *OURS!* WE WANTED TO RIP HIS HEART OUT!
YOU CHEATED--
--US--!
VENOM!
YOU'RE STILL HURTING FROM WHAT CARNAGE *DID* TO YOU!
LET ME *HELP* YOU... GET YOU TO A *HOSPITAL* AND--
DON'T *WANT* YOUR HELP... DON'T *NEED* IT--!
ALL WE WANT... IS *CARNAGE...* AND YOU *STOLE* HIM FROM US!


AWWW--
--AIN'T THAT SWEET?
HE MISSES ME!
WELL, DON'T CRY, DADDY DEAREST--
--'CAUSE YOUR SONNY BOY --
NO!
--IS ALIVE AND WELL!
YES!
"MAXIMUM CARNAGE" CONCLUDES IN SPIDER-MAN UNLIMITED #2! ON SALE IN ONE WEEK! (DO WE REALLY HAVE TO ADVISE YOU NOT TO MISS IT?)
AND BE HERE IN ONE MONTH FOR THE RETURN OF THE SUPER-POWERED TOMBSTONE!

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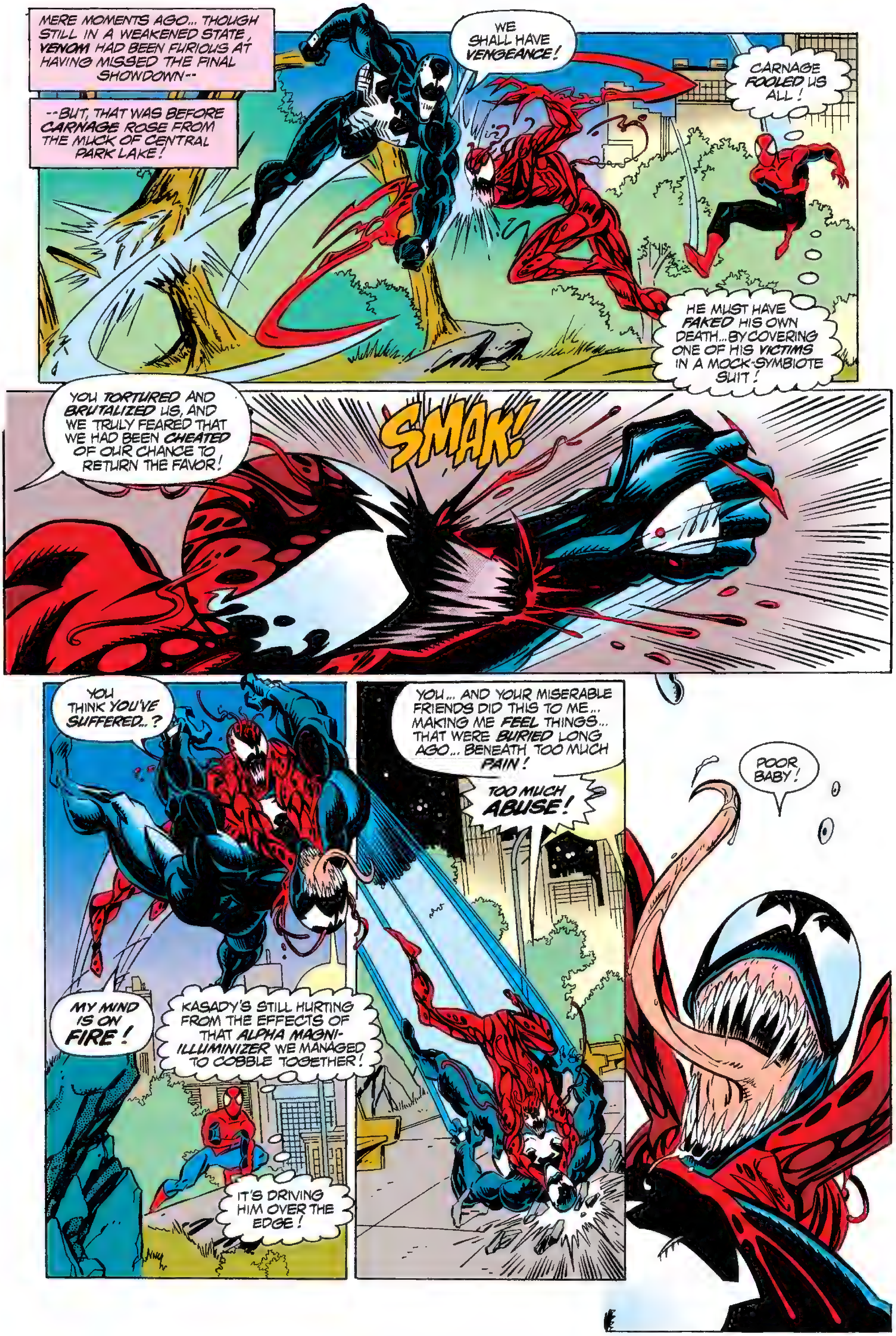
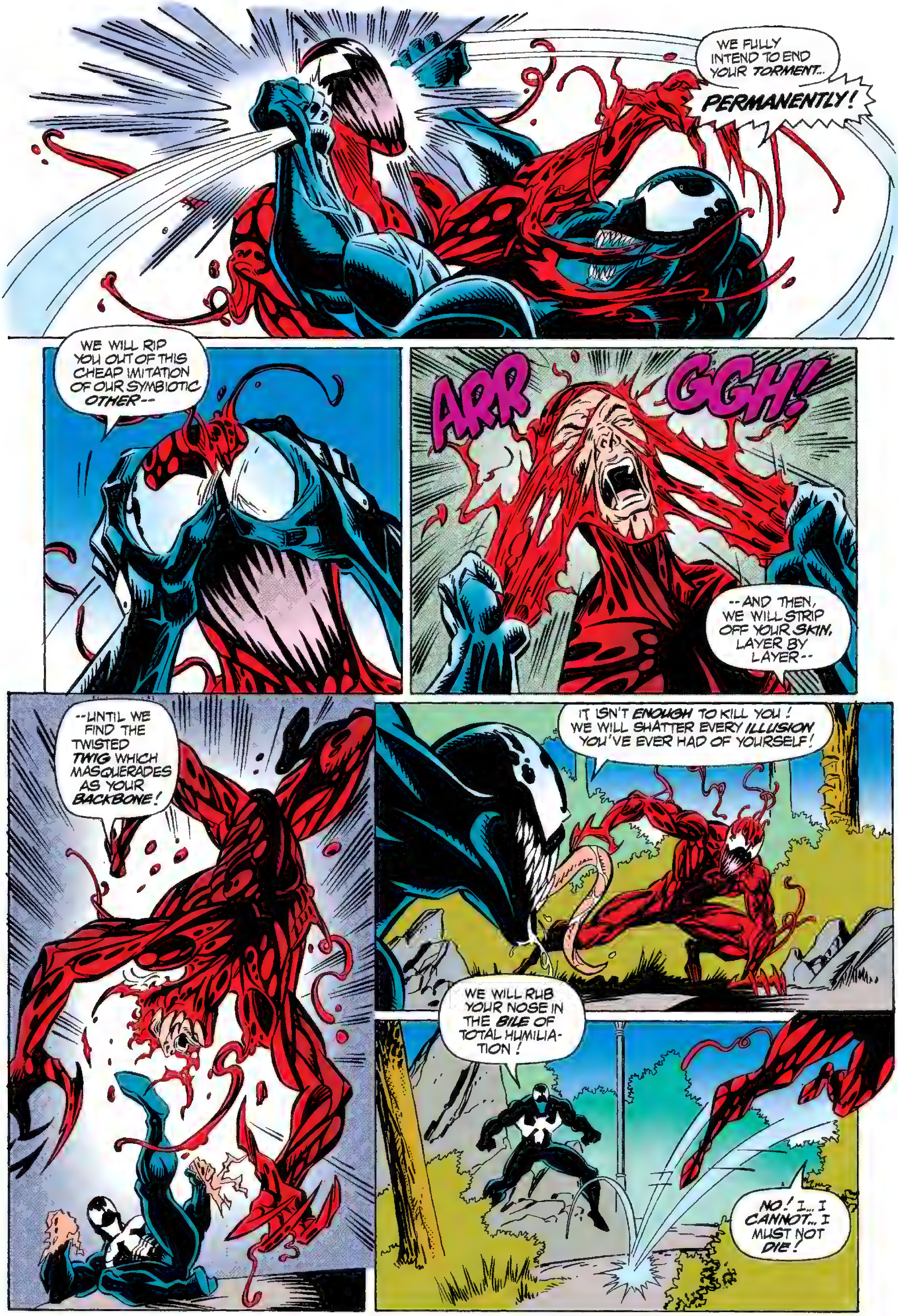
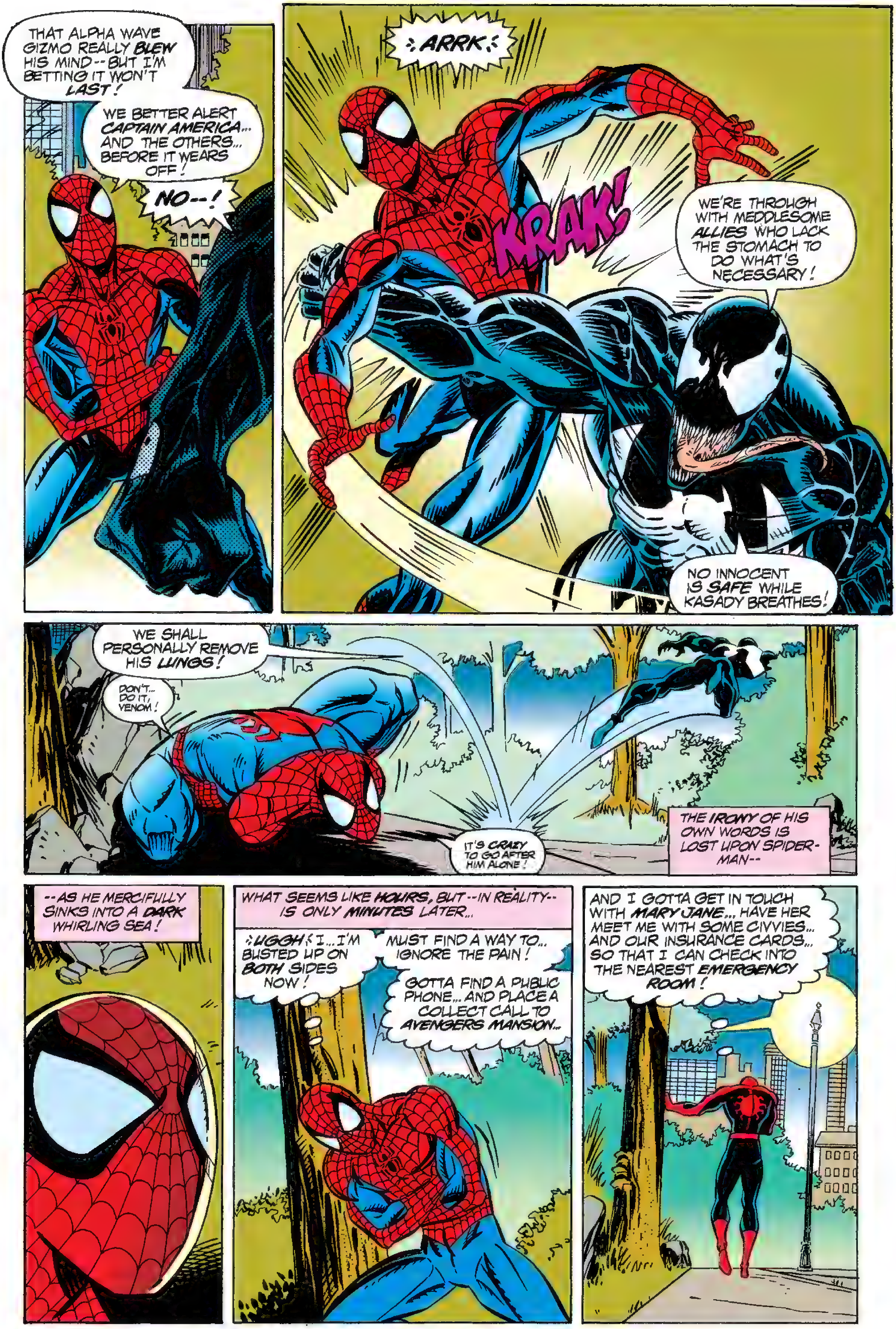
FACE TO FACE WITH CARNAGE™-- AND VENOM™ GETS THE WINNER!

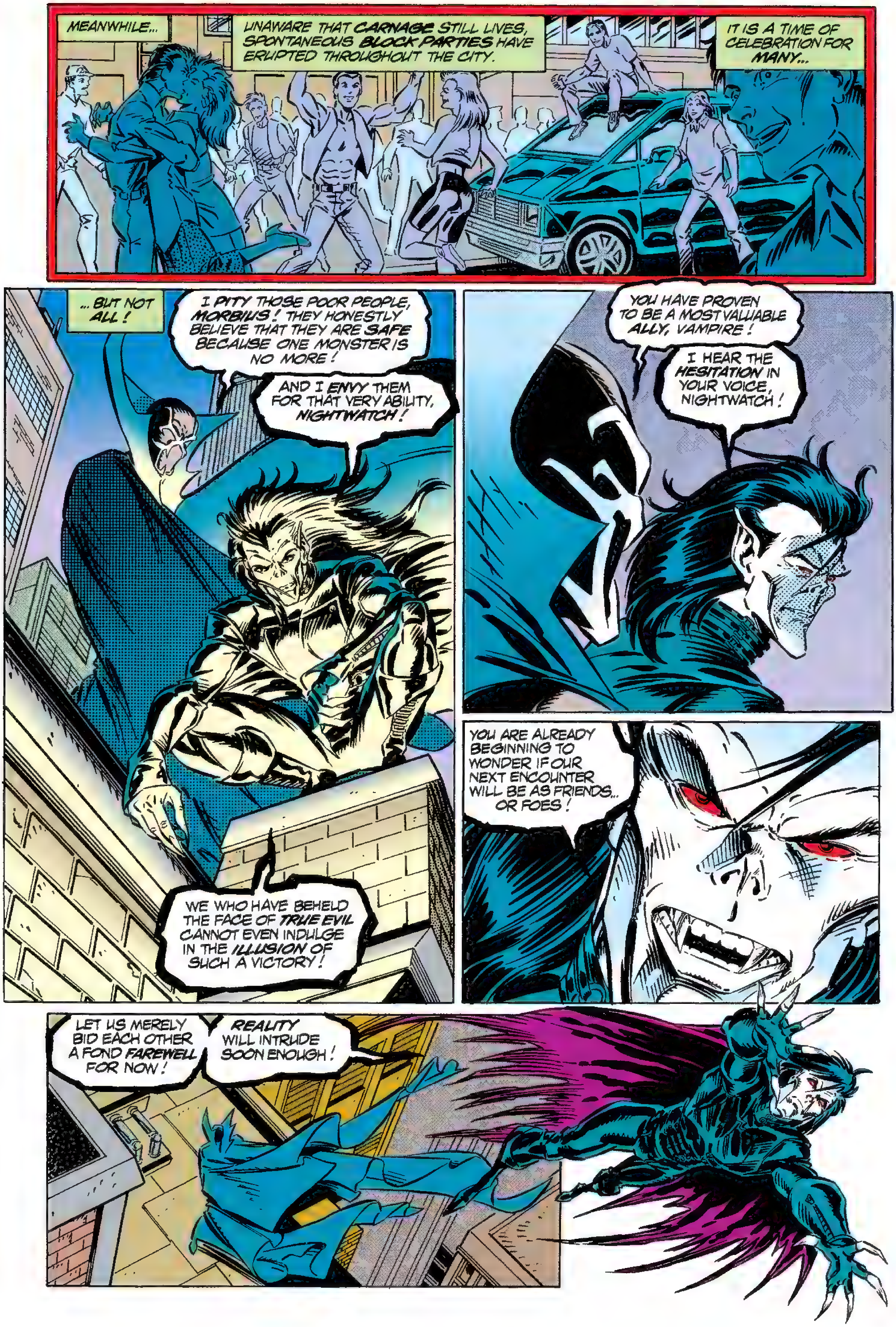
MAXIMUM CARNAGE ENDS HERE!
BARELY AN HOUR AGO, MANHATTAN WAS CRAWLING WITH POLICE INVESTIGATORS AND SUPER HEROES IN THE AFTERMATH OF THE BLOODIEST SIEGE IN THE CITY'S HISTORY. HAVING ALREADY CARTED AWAY HIS EXTENDED "FAMILY," THEY BELIEVED THAT CARNAGE WAS DEAD. THEY WERE WRONG! STAN LEE PRESENTS:
THE HATRED, THE HORROR AND THE HERO!
CHAPTER FOURTEEN, PART 1
EEEYII!
HIS SHATTERED RIBS FLARING IN A SEARING KALEIDOSCOPE OF PAIN, SPIDER-MAN INSTINCTIVELY LEAPS--
--EVEN BEFORE HIS EXHAUSTED MIND CAN GRASP THE STARTLING REALIZATION THAT HE'S CAUGHT BETWEEN TWO SNARLING MONSTERS!
TOM DeFALCO WRITER
MARK BAGLEY BREAKDOWNS
SAM DeLAROSA FINISHES
CHRIS ELIOPOULOS LETTERS
JOHN KALISZ COLORS
DANNY FINGEROTH EDITOR

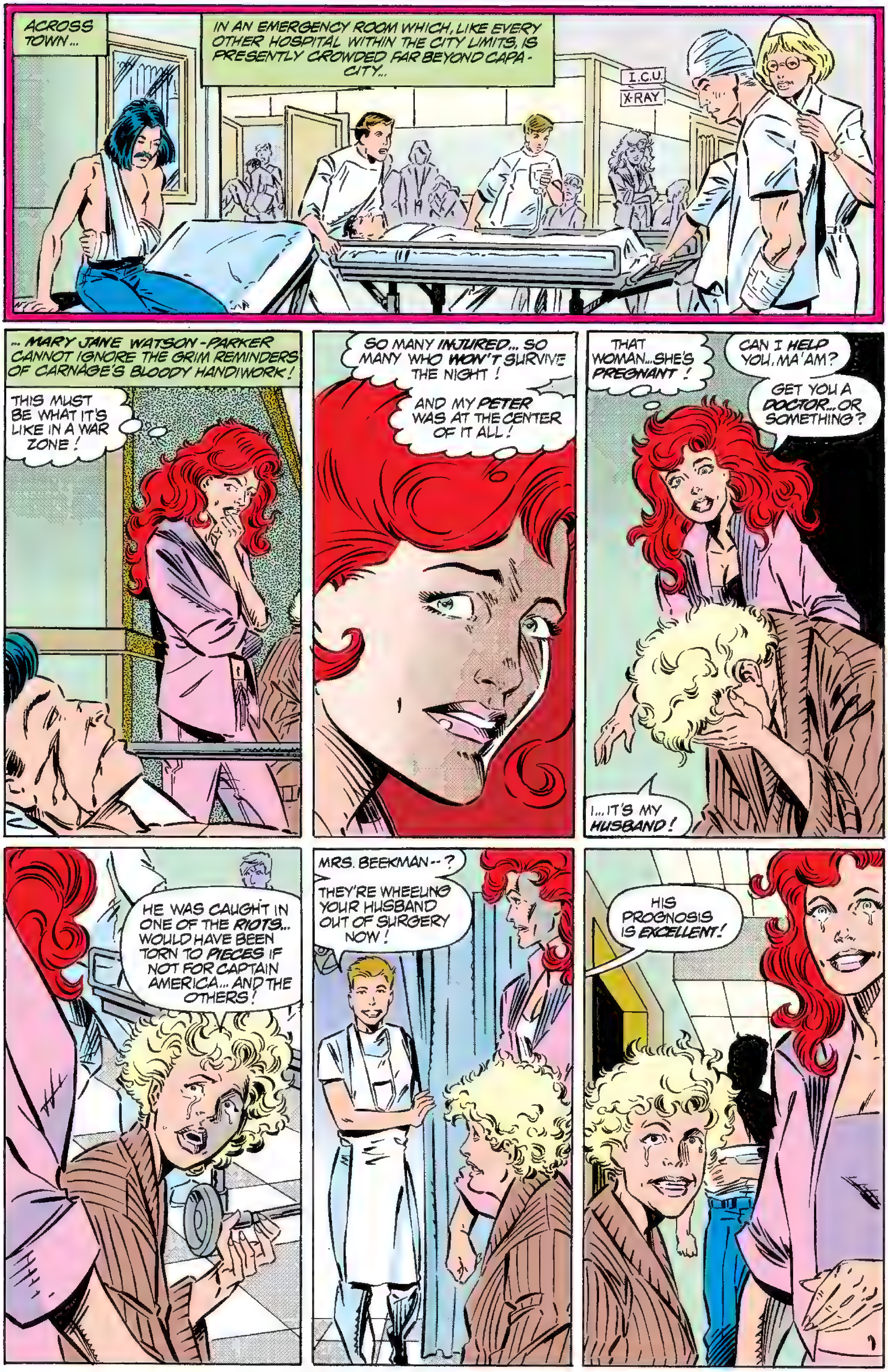
[redacted]

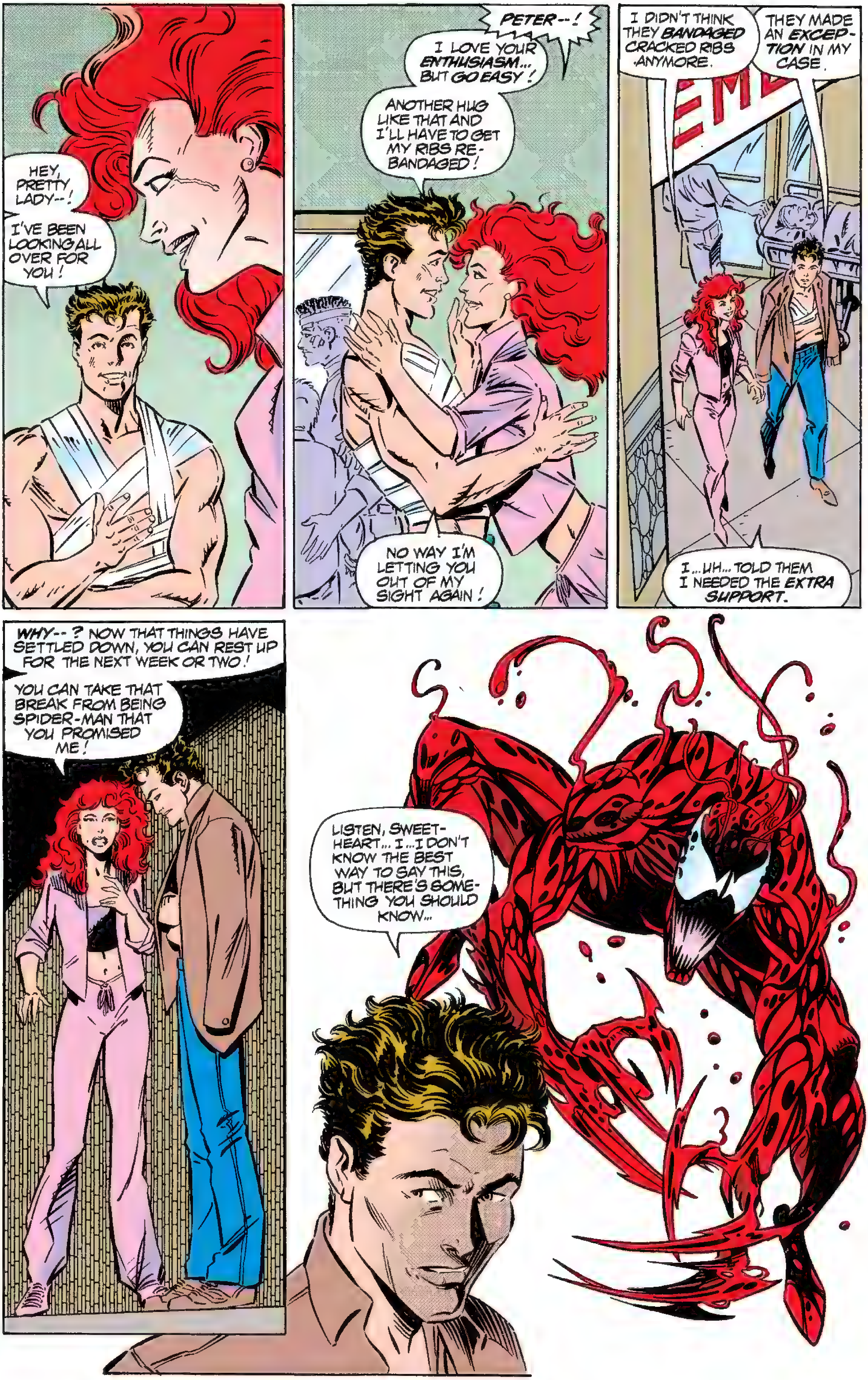

MERE MOMENTS AGO... THOUGH STILL IN A WEAKENED STATE, **VENOM** HAD BEEN FURIOUS AT HAVING MISSED THE FINAL SHOWDOWN--
--BUT, THAT WAS BEFORE **CARNAGE** ROSE FROM THE MUCK OF CENTRAL PARK LAKE!
WE SHALL HAVE **VENGEANCE**!
CARNAGE **FOOLED** US ALL!
HE MUST HAVE **FAKED** HIS OWN DEATH...BY COVERING ONE OF HIS **VICTIMS** IN A MOCK-SYMBIOTE SUIT!
YOU **TORTURED** AND **BRUTALIZED** US, AND WE TRULY FEARED THAT WE HAD BEEN **CHEATED** OF OUR CHANCE TO RETURN THE FAVOR!
SMAK!
YOU THINK **YOU'VE SUFFERED**..?
MY MIND IS ON **FIRE**!
KASADY'S STILL HURTING FROM THE EFFECTS OF THAT **ALPHA MAGNI-ILLUMINIZER** WE MANAGED TO COBBLE TOGETHER!
IT'S DRIVING HIM OVER THE EDGE!
YOU... AND YOUR MISERABLE FRIENDS DID THIS TO ME... MAKING ME **FEEL** THINGS... THAT WERE **BURIED** LONG AGO... BENEATH TOO MUCH **PAIN**!
TOO MUCH **ABUSE**!
POOR BABY!

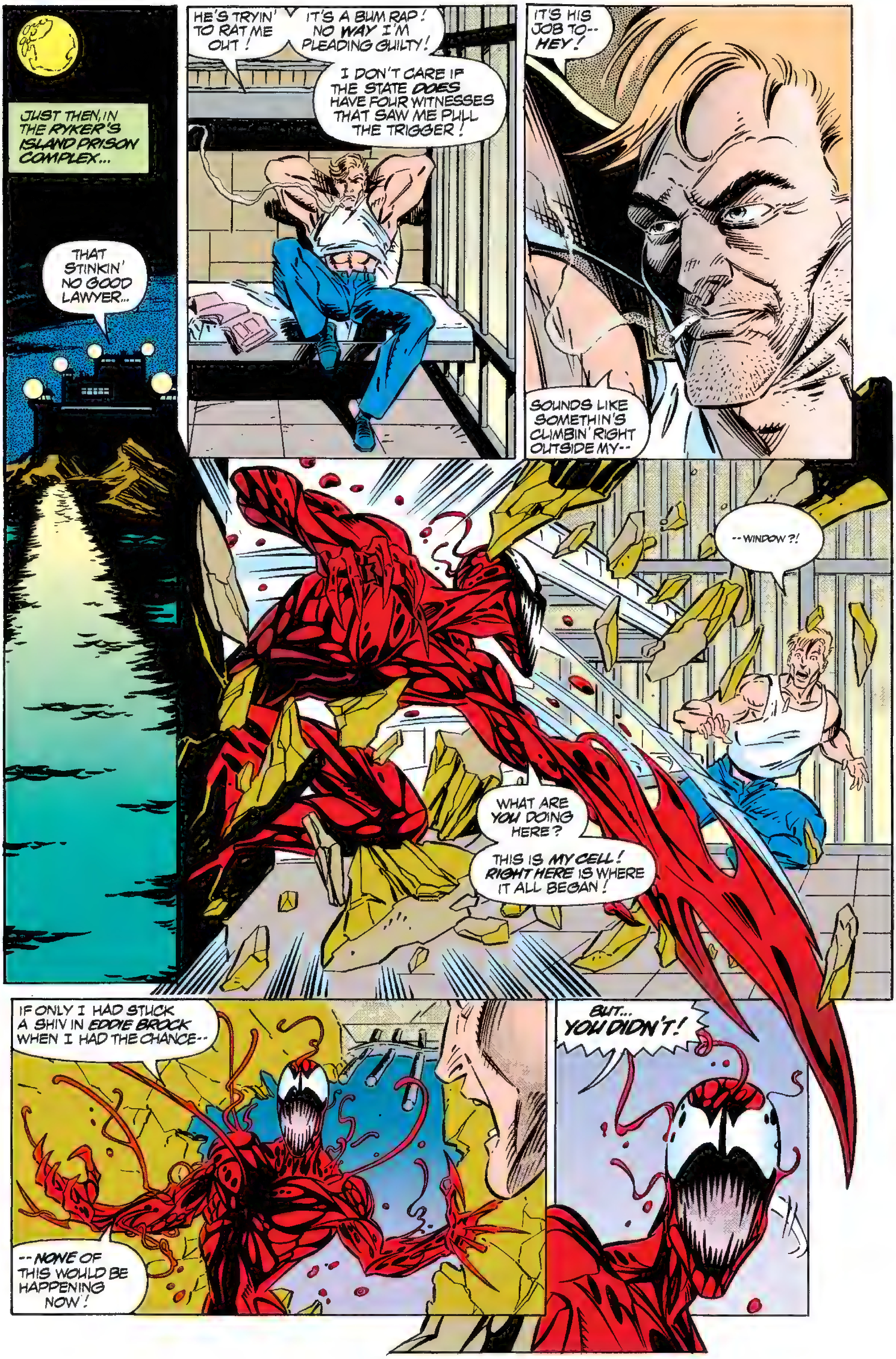

WE FULLY INTEND TO END YOUR *TORMENT*...
PERMANENTLY!
WE WILL RIP YOU OUT OF THIS CHEAP IMITATION OF OUR SYMBIOTIC *OTHER*--
ARRGGH!
--AND THEN, WE WILL STRIP OFF YOUR *SKIN*, LAYER BY LAYER--
--UNTIL WE FIND THE TWISTED *TWIG* WHICH MASQUERADES AS YOUR *BACKBONE!*
IT ISN'T *ENOUGH* TO KILL YOU! WE WILL SHATTER EVERY *ILLUSION* YOU'VE EVER HAD OF YOURSELF!
WE WILL RUB YOUR NOSE IN THE *BILE* OF TOTAL HUMILIATION!
NO! I... I *CANNOT*... I MUST NOT *DIE!*

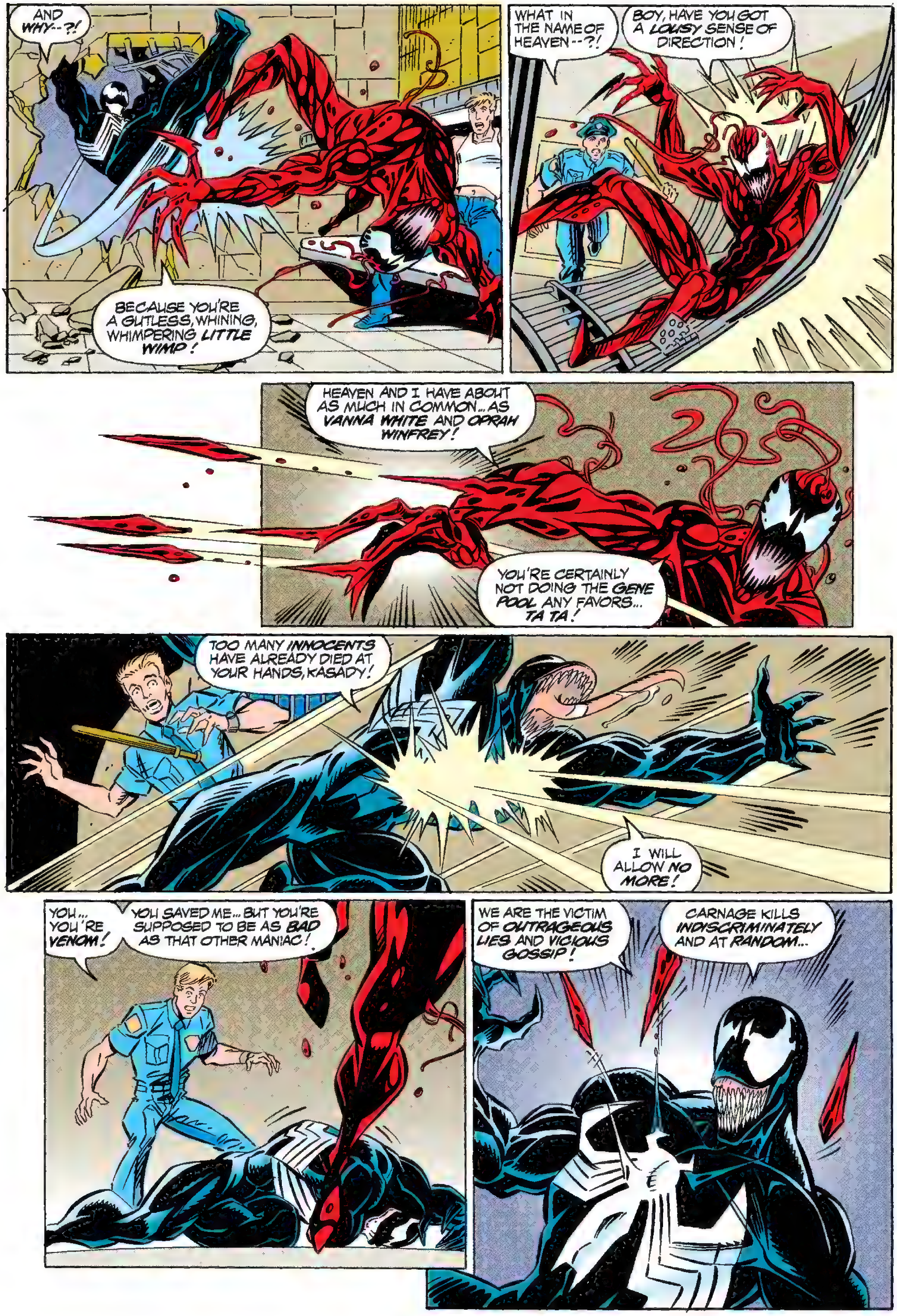

THAT ALPHA WAVE GIZMO REALLY BLEW HIS MIND--BUT I'M BETTING IT WON'T LAST!
WE BETTER ALERT CAPTAIN AMERICA... AND THE OTHERS... BEFORE IT WEARS OFF!
NO--!
:ARRK:
KRAK!
WE'RE THROUGH WITH MEDDLESOME ALLIES WHO LACK THE STOMACH TO DO WHAT'S NECESSARY!
NO INNOCENT IS SAFE WHILE KASADY BREATHES!
WE SHALL PERSONALLY REMOVE HIS LUNGS!
DON'T... DO IT, VENOM!
IT'S CRAZY TO GO AFTER HIM ALONE!
THE IRONY OF HIS OWN WORDS IS LOST UPON SPIDER-MAN--
--AS HE MERCIFULLY SINKS INTO A DARK WHIRLING SEA!
WHAT SEEMS LIKE HOURS, BUT--IN REALITY--IS ONLY MINUTES LATER...
:UGGH: I...I'M BUSTED UP ON BOTH SIDES NOW!
MUST FIND A WAY TO... IGNORE THE PAIN!
GOTTA FIND A PUBLIC PHONE... AND PLACE A COLLECT CALL TO AVENGERS MANSION...
AND I GOTTA GET IN TOUCH WITH MARY JANE... HAVE HER MEET ME WITH SOME CIVVIES... AND OUR INSURANCE CARDS... SO THAT I CAN CHECK INTO THE NEAREST EMERGENCY ROOM!

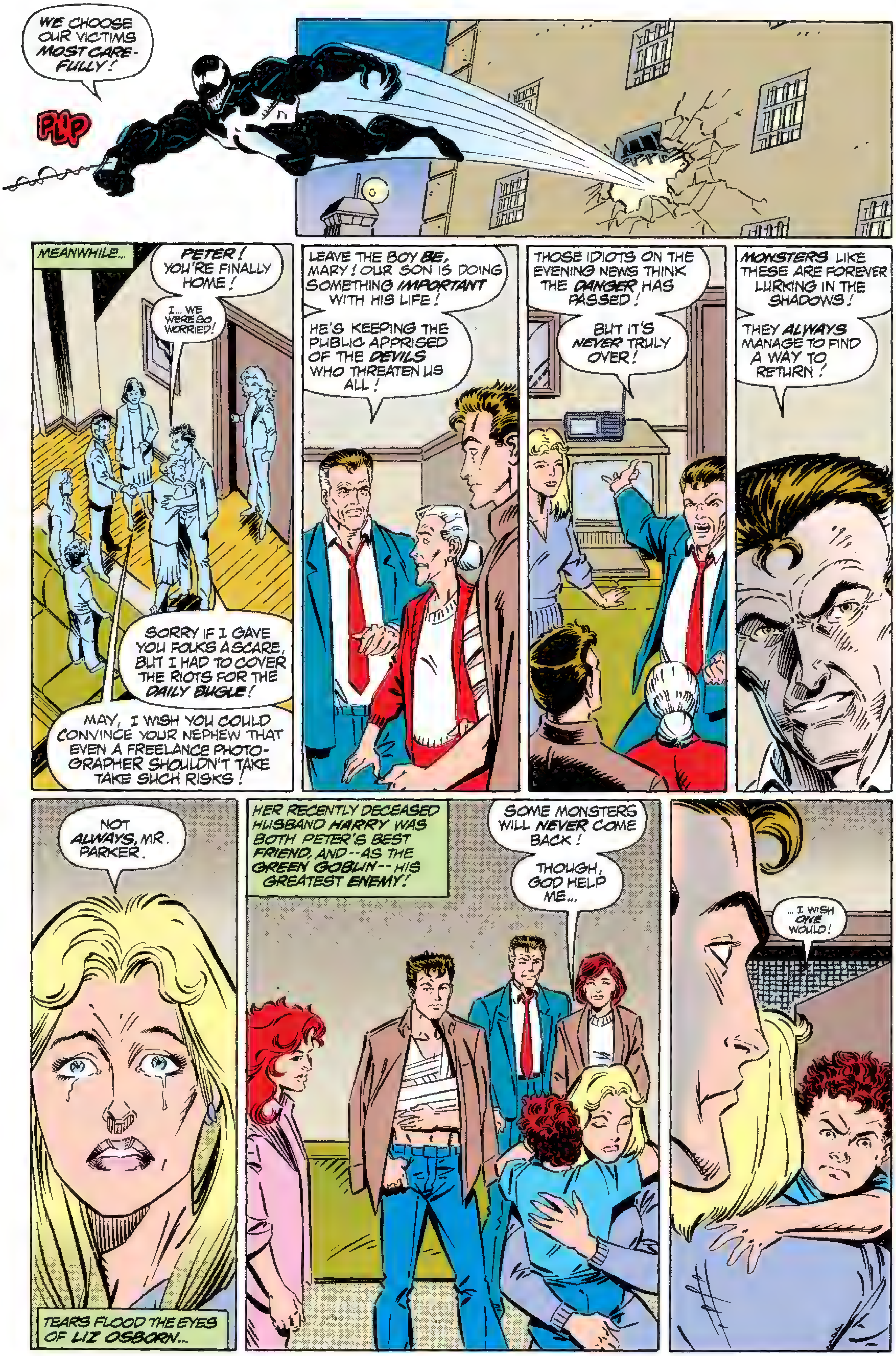

MEANWHILE...
UNAWARE THAT CARNAGE STILL LIVES, SPONTANEOUS BLOCK PARTIES HAVE ERUPTED THROUGHOUT THE CITY.
IT IS A TIME OF CELEBRATION FOR MANY...
...BUT NOT ALL!
I PITY THOSE POOR PEOPLE, MORBIUS! THEY HONESTLY BELIEVE THAT THEY ARE SAFE BECAUSE ONE MONSTER IS NO MORE!
AND I ENVY THEM FOR THAT VERY ABILITY, NIGHTWATCH!
WE WHO HAVE BEHELD THE FACE OF TRUE EVIL CANNOT EVEN INDULGE IN THE ILLUSION OF SUCH A VICTORY!
YOU HAVE PROVEN TO BE A MOST VALUABLE ALLY, VAMPIRE!
I HEAR THE HESITATION IN YOUR VOICE, NIGHTWATCH!
YOU ARE ALREADY BEGINNING TO WONDER IF OUR NEXT ENCOUNTER WILL BE AS FRIENDS... OR FOES!
LET US MERELY BID EACH OTHER A FOND FAREWELL FOR NOW!
REALITY WILL INTRUDE SOON ENOUGH!

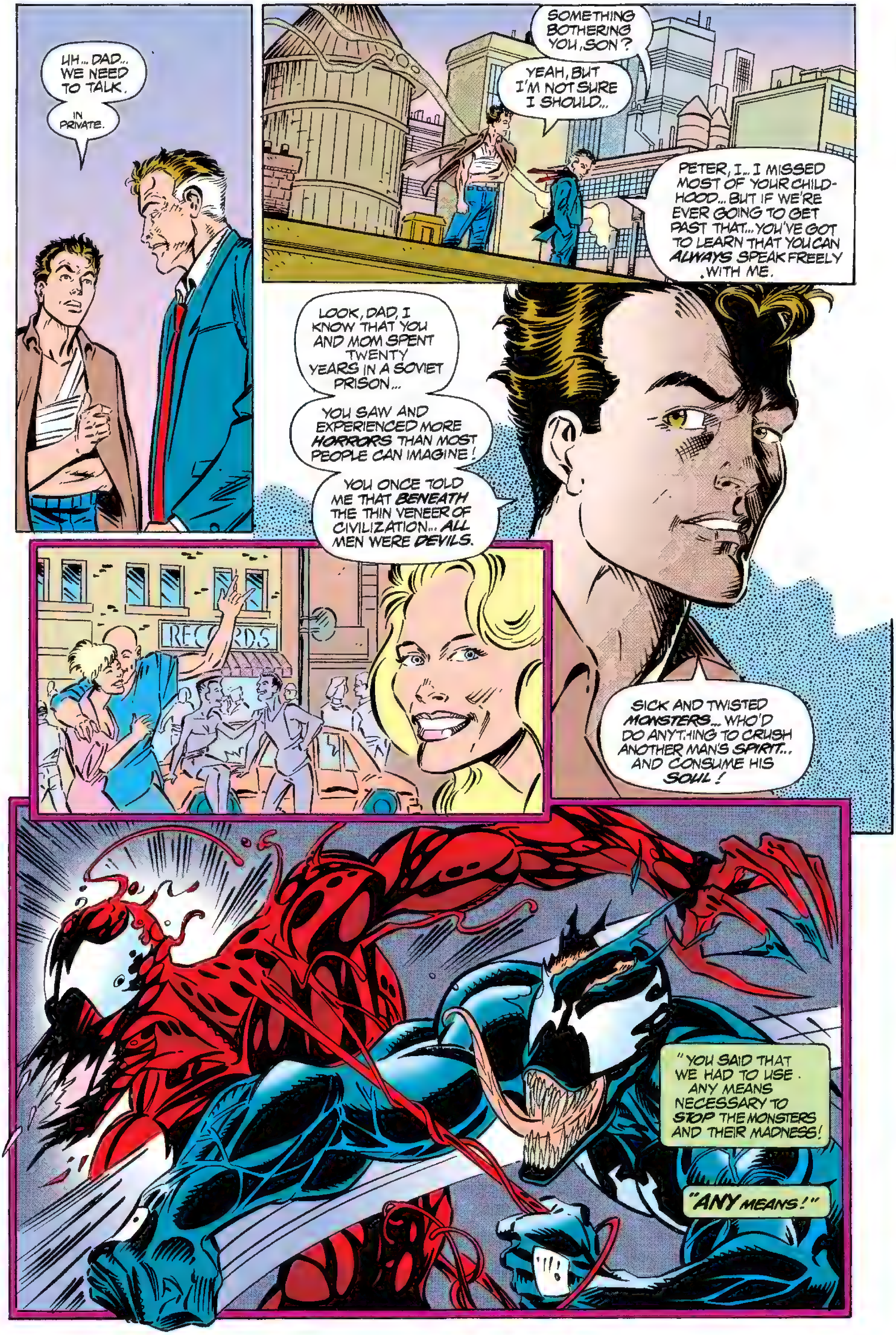

ACROSS TOWN...
IN AN EMERGENCY ROOM WHICH, LIKE EVERY OTHER HOSPITAL WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS, IS PRESENTLY CROWDED FAR BEYOND CAPACITY...
I.C.U.
X-RAY
...MARY JANE WATSON-PARKER CANNOT IGNORE THE GRIM REMINDERS OF CARNAGE'S BLOODY HANDIWORK!
THIS MUST BE WHAT IT'S LIKE IN A WAR ZONE!
SO MANY INJURED... SO MANY WHO WON'T SURVIVE THE NIGHT!
AND MY PETER WAS AT THE CENTER OF IT ALL!
THAT WOMAN...SHE'S PREGNANT!
CAN I HELP YOU, MA'AM?
GET YOU A DOCTOR...OR SOMETHING?
I...IT'S MY HUSBAND!
HE WAS CAUGHT IN ONE OF THE RIOTS... WOULD HAVE BEEN TORN TO PIECES IF NOT FOR CAPTAIN AMERICA... AND THE OTHERS!
MRS. BEEKMAN--?
THEY'RE WHEELING YOUR HUSBAND OUT OF SURGERY NOW!
HIS PROGNOSIS IS EXCELLENT!

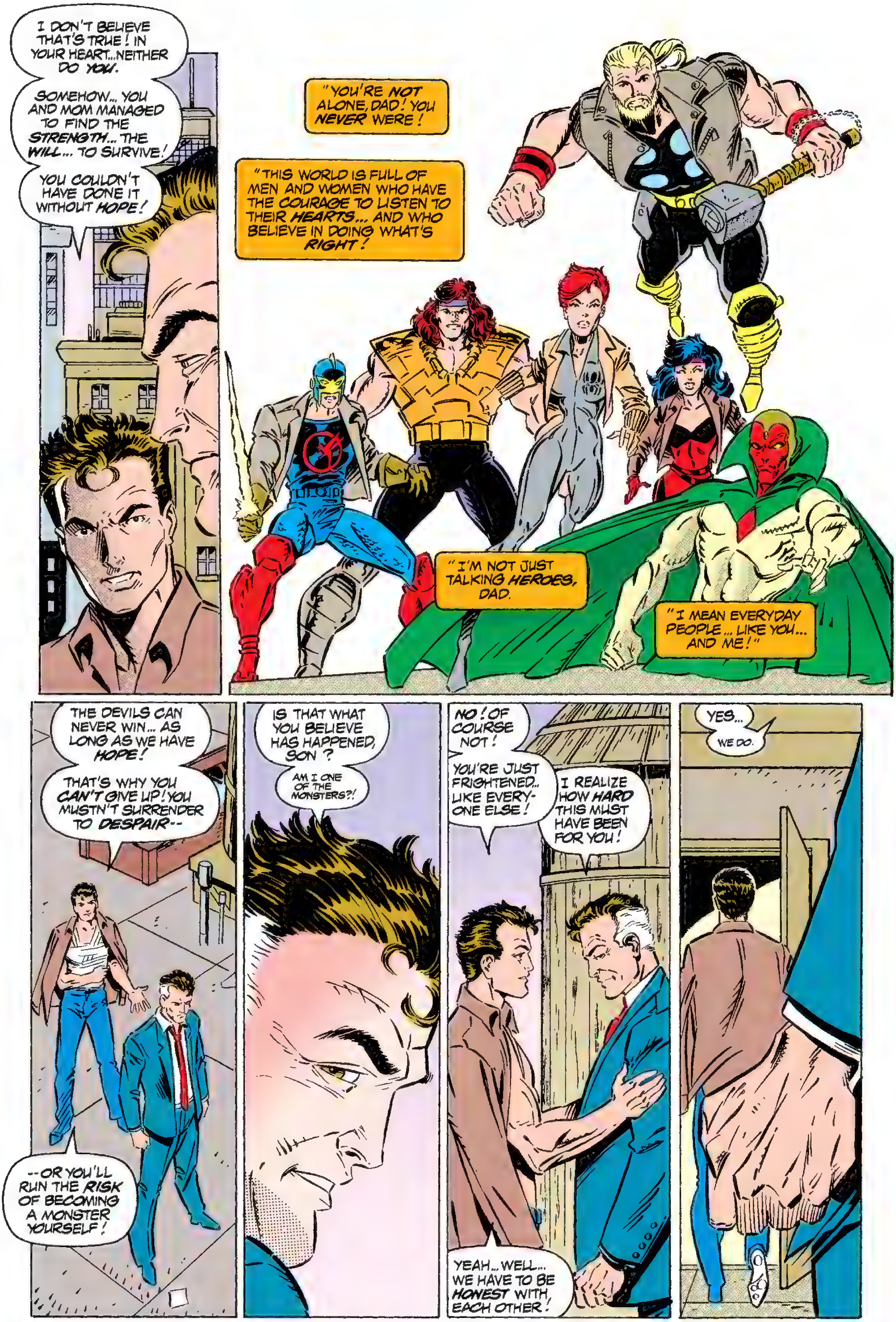

HEY, PRETTY LADY--!
I'VE BEEN LOOKING ALL OVER FOR YOU!
PETER--!
I LOVE YOUR ENTHUSIASM... BUT GO EASY!
ANOTHER HUG LIKE THAT AND I'LL HAVE TO GET MY RIBS RE-BANDAGED!
NO WAY I'M LETTING YOU OUT OF MY SIGHT AGAIN!
I DIDN'T THINK THEY BANDAGED CRACKED RIBS ANYMORE.
THEY MADE AN EXCEPTION IN MY CASE.
EME
I...UH...TOLD THEM I NEEDED THE EXTRA SUPPORT.
WHY--? NOW THAT THINGS HAVE SETTLED DOWN, YOU CAN REST UP FOR THE NEXT WEEK OR TWO!
YOU CAN TAKE THAT BREAK FROM BEING SPIDER-MAN THAT YOU PROMISED ME!
LISTEN, SWEETHEART... I...I DON'T KNOW THE BEST WAY TO SAY THIS, BUT THERE'S SOMETHING YOU SHOULD KNOW...

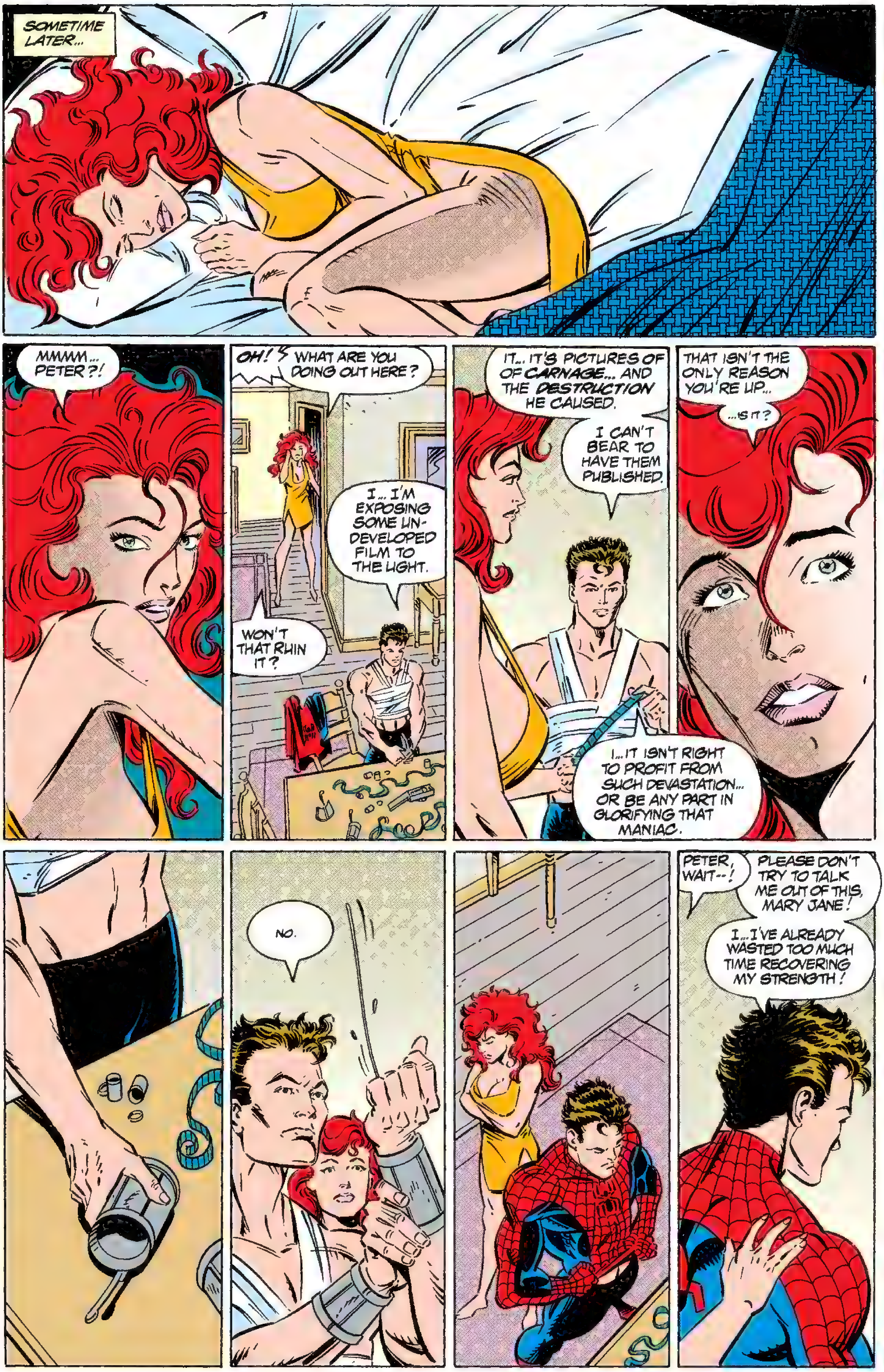

JUST THEN, IN THE RYKER'S ISLAND PRISON COMPLEX...
THAT STINKIN' NO GOOD LAWYER...
HE'S TRYIN' TO RAT ME OUT!
IT'S A BUM RAP! NO WAY I'M PLEADING GUILTY!
I DON'T CARE IF THE STATE DOES HAVE FOUR WITNESSES THAT SAW ME PULL THE TRIGGER!
IT'S HIS JOB TO-- HEY!
SOUNDS LIKE SOMETHIN'S CLIMBIN' RIGHT OUTSIDE MY--
--WINDOW?!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
THIS IS MY CELL! RIGHT HERE IS WHERE IT ALL BEGAN!
IF ONLY I HAD STUCK A SHIV IN EDDIE BROCK WHEN I HAD THE CHANCE--
--NONE OF THIS WOULD BE HAPPENING NOW!
BUT... YOU DIDN'T!

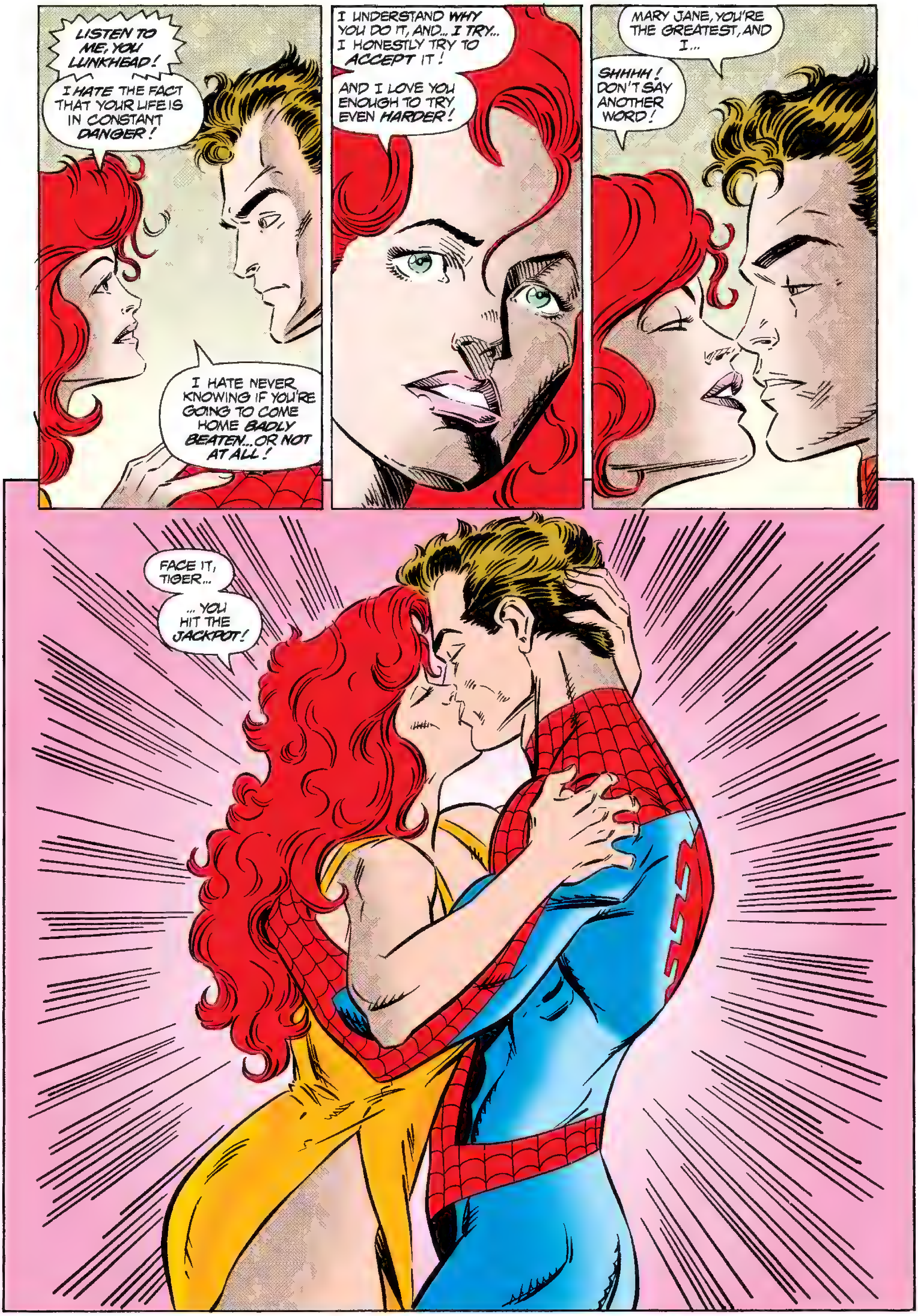

AND WHY--?!
BECAUSE YOU'RE A GUTLESS, WHINING, WHIMPERING LITTLE WIMP!
WHAT IN THE NAME OF HEAVEN--?!
BOY, HAVE YOU GOT A LOUSY SENSE OF DIRECTION!
HEAVEN AND I HAVE ABOUT AS MUCH IN COMMON... AS VANNA WHITE AND OPRAH WINFREY!
YOU'RE CERTAINLY NOT DOING THE GENE POOL ANY FAVORS... TA TA!
TOO MANY INNOCENTS HAVE ALREADY DIED AT YOUR HANDS, KASADY!
I WILL ALLOW NO MORE!
YOU... YOU'RE VENOM!
YOU SAVED ME... BUT YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE AS BAD AS THAT OTHER MANIAC!
WE ARE THE VICTIM OF OUTRAGEOUS LIES AND VICIOUS GOSSIP!
CARNAGE KILLS INDISCRIMINATELY AND AT RANDOM...


WE CHOOSE OUR VICTIMS MOST CAREFULLY!
PLIP
MEANWHILE...
PETER! YOU'RE FINALLY HOME!
I... WE WERE SO WORRIED!
SORRY IF I GAVE YOU FOLKS A SCARE, BUT I HAD TO COVER THE RIOTS FOR THE DAILY BUGLE!
MAY, I WISH YOU COULD CONVINCE YOUR NEPHEW THAT EVEN A FREELANCE PHOTOGRAPHER SHOULDN'T TAKE SUCH RISKS!
LEAVE THE BOY BE, MARY! OUR SON IS DOING SOMETHING IMPORTANT WITH HIS LIFE!
HE'S KEEPING THE PUBLIC APPRISED OF THE DEVILS WHO THREATEN US ALL!
THOSE IDIOTS ON THE EVENING NEWS THINK THE DANGER HAS PASSED!
BUT IT'S NEVER TRULY OVER!
MONSTERS LIKE THESE ARE FOREVER LURKING IN THE SHADOWS!
THEY ALWAYS MANAGE TO FIND A WAY TO RETURN!
NOT ALWAYS, MR. PARKER.
TEARS FLOOD THE EYES OF LIZ OSBORN...
HER RECENTLY DECEASED HUSBAND HARRY WAS BOTH PETER'S BEST FRIEND, AND -- AS THE GREEN GOBLIN -- HIS GREATEST ENEMY!
SOME MONSTERS WILL NEVER COME BACK!
THOUGH, GOD HELP ME...
...I WISH ONE WOULD!


UH... DAD... WE NEED TO TALK.
IN PRIVATE.
SOMETHING BOTHERING YOU, SON?
YEAH, BUT I'M NOT SURE I SHOULD...
PETER, I... I MISSED MOST OF YOUR CHILDHOOD... BUT IF WE'RE EVER GOING TO GET PAST THAT... YOU'VE GOT TO LEARN THAT YOU CAN ALWAYS SPEAK FREELY WITH ME.
LOOK, DAD, I KNOW THAT YOU AND MOM SPENT TWENTY YEARS IN A SOVIET PRISON...
YOU SAW AND EXPERIENCED MORE HORRORS THAN MOST PEOPLE CAN IMAGINE!
YOU ONCE TOLD ME THAT BENEATH THE THIN VENEER OF CIVILIZATION... ALL MEN WERE DEVILS.
RECORDS
SICK AND TWISTED MONSTERS... WHO'D DO ANYTHING TO CRUSH ANOTHER MAN'S SPIRIT... AND CONSUME HIS SOUL!
"YOU SAID THAT WE HAD TO USE ANY MEANS NECESSARY TO STOP THE MONSTERS AND THEIR MADNESS!
"ANY MEANS!"


I DON'T BELIEVE THAT'S TRUE! IN YOUR HEART...NEITHER DO YOU.
SOMEHOW... YOU AND MOM MANAGED TO FIND THE STRENGTH... THE WILL... TO SURVIVE!
YOU COULDN'T HAVE DONE IT WITHOUT HOPE!
"YOU'RE NOT ALONE, DAD! YOU NEVER WERE!
"THIS WORLD IS FULL OF MEN AND WOMEN WHO HAVE THE COURAGE TO LISTEN TO THEIR HEARTS... AND WHO BELIEVE IN DOING WHAT'S RIGHT!
"I'M NOT JUST TALKING HEROES, DAD.
"I MEAN EVERYDAY PEOPLE... LIKE YOU... AND ME!"
THE DEVILS CAN NEVER WIN... AS LONG AS WE HAVE HOPE!
THAT'S WHY YOU CAN'T GIVE UP! YOU MUSTN'T SURRENDER TO DESPAIR--
--OR YOU'LL RUN THE RISK OF BECOMING A MONSTER YOURSELF!
IS THAT WHAT YOU BELIEVE HAS HAPPENED, SON?
AM I ONE OF THE MONSTERS?!
NO! OF COURSE NOT!
YOU'RE JUST FRIGHTENED... LIKE EVERY-ONE ELSE!
I REALIZE HOW HARD THIS MUST HAVE BEEN FOR YOU!
YEAH... WELL... WE HAVE TO BE HONEST WITH EACH OTHER!
YES...
WE DO.


SOMETIME LATER...
MMMM... PETER?!
OH! WHAT ARE YOU DOING OUT HERE?
I... I'M EXPOSING SOME UN-DEVELOPED FILM TO THE LIGHT.
WON'T THAT RUIN IT?
IT... IT'S PICTURES OF OF CARNAGE... AND THE DESTRUCTION HE CAUSED.
I CAN'T BEAR TO HAVE THEM PUBLISHED.
I... IT ISN'T RIGHT TO PROFIT FROM SUCH DEVASTATION... OR BE ANY PART IN GLORIFYING THAT MANIAC.
THAT ISN'T THE ONLY REASON YOU'RE UP...
...IS IT?
NO.
PETER, WAIT--!
PLEASE DON'T TRY TO TALK ME OUT OF THIS, MARY JANE!
I... I'VE ALREADY WASTED TOO MUCH TIME RECOVERING MY STRENGTH!


LISTEN TO ME, YOU LUNKHEAD!
I HATE THE FACT THAT YOUR LIFE IS IN CONSTANT DANGER!
I HATE NEVER KNOWING IF YOU'RE GOING TO COME HOME BADLY BEATEN...OR NOT AT ALL!
I UNDERSTAND WHY YOU DO IT, AND... I TRY... I HONESTLY TRY TO ACCEPT IT!
AND I LOVE YOU ENOUGH TO TRY EVEN HARDER!
MARY JANE, YOU'RE THE GREATEST, AND I...
SHHHH! DON'T SAY ANOTHER WORD!
FACE IT, TIGER...
...YOU HIT THE JACKPOT!

AND SO, A KISS LATER...
CARNAGE HAS HELD THIS CITY IN A GRIP OF TERROR FOR FAR TOO LONG! I'M DETERMINED TO BRING HIM DOWN!
BUT I'M GOING TO DO IT MY WAY!
HE WON'T ESCAPE ME AGAIN! I SWEAR THAT THE ONLY WAY HE CAN STOP ME NOW IS... BY KILLING ME!
BAGLEY • DELAROSA

THE HATRED, THE HORROR AND THE HERO!
CHAPTER 14, PART 2
SOME PEOPLE HATE REUNIONS.
THEY HAVE NO INTEREST IN REMINISCING WITH FORMER CLASSMATES AND OLD ACQUAINTANCES.
ESPECIALLY WHEN THE ACQUAINTACES ARE DEAD!
COWERING AMID THE RUINS OF THE ST. ESTES HOME FOR BOYS, CARNAGE IS TAUNTED BY HIS BLOODY PAST --
-- AS HIS STRICKEN MIND CONJURES GHOSTLY IMAGES OF FORMER VICTIMS.
TOM DeFALCO - WRITER
RON LIM - PENCILER
JIM SANDERS III & SAM DeLaROSA - INKERS
CHRIS ELIOPOULOS - LETTERS
JOHN KALISZ - COLORIST
DANNY FINGEROTH - EDITOR

HEY, KASADY! REMEMBER US FROM BEFORE YOU SET THIS PLACE ON FIRE?
GOT ANY LUNCH MONEY?
WE'RE EMBARRASSED TO HAVE BEEN MURDERED BY SUCH A GUTLESS CRYBABY!
STRAIGHTEN UP, JERK! I THOUGHT YOU ENJOYED THE KILLING GAME... BUT I GUESS THAT'S ONLY WHEN YOU'RE THE KILLER... NOT THE GAME!
WHO'S GOT YOU SWEATIN' BULLETS THIS TIME, WUSS?
VENOM.
LOUDER! WE CAN'T HEAR YOU!
I SAID--
--VENOM?!
AT YOUR SERVICE!
MASHED BRAINS AND SCRAMBLED FACES OUR SPECIALTY!
IN YOUR CASE, WE'RE EVEN WILLING TO TOSS IN A SHATTERED VERTEBRAE--
--BUT THAT'S ONLY IF YOU CAN SUPPLY THE NECESSARY SPINE!

MY BRAIN MAY BE FREAKING ON ME, BROCK... BUT THAT DOESN'T CHANGE THE FACT THAT I'M STRONGER AND FASTER THAN YOU!
PLIP
MAYBE SO, BUT WE ARE SMARTER, CRAFTIER--
SWAK!
--AND A WHOLE LOT DEADLIER!
GET REAL, BROCK! YOU CAN'T KILL ME! NO ONE CAN!
CARNAGE RULES!
I AM THE TRUE MASTER OF DEATH!
YOU SHOULD KNOW BETTER THAN TO SWALLOW YOUR OWN PRESS!
THE ONLY THING YOU'RE FIT TO RULE IS THE KINGDOM OF NEVER-ENDING PAIN!
KWOOOOM!

UGNN
POOR LITTLE CLETUS!
EVEN WE WOULD FEEL VERY *SORRY* FOR YOU...
TOO BAD *VENOM* DON'T PLAY THAT!
HOW DO YOU WANT TO *DIE*, BUNKY?
SHOULD WE RIP OUT YOUR *LUNGS*... OR MERELY TWIST YOUR *HEAD* LOOSE?!
HOW'S ABOUT WE LEAVE THAT FOR THE *AUTHORITIES* TO DECIDE?
YAARGH!
DON'T INTERFERE, SPIDER-MAN!
KASADY ONLY FEELS *ALIVE* WHEN HE'S *TAKING* LIVES!
WE ARE ONLY DOING WHAT'S *NECESSARY!* NO INNOCENT WILL EVER BE *SAFE* WHILE HE BREATHES!
MAYBE NOT, BUT I CAN'T CONDONE *MURDER*... NOT EVEN OF A LUNATIC LIKE *CARNAGE*!

HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT YOUR *OWN* DEATH, WEB-MAN ?
ARE YOU WILLING TO SACRIFICE *YOURSELF* TO SAVE THAT WARPED LITTLE SADIST ?!
SHEESH I WAS AFRAID YOU'D ASK A HARD ONE !
CARNAGE MUST DIE ! NOTHING ELSE MATTERS !
CAREFUL--! YOU'RE STARTING TO *OBSESS* !
YOU'LL NEVER *UNDERSTAND!* WE HELPED *CREATE CARNAGE !*
WE ARE *RESPONSIBLE* FOR THE EVILS HE'S COMMITTED !
YOU'RE *KIDDING*, RIGHT ?
KASADY IS OUR *DARK* SIDE !
A DISTORTED VERSION OF *EVERYTHING* WE BELIEVE.
I *DO* UNDERSTAND!! I KNOW *EXACTLY* HOW YOU FEEL !
IT'S KIND OF THE WAY I SEE *YOU* !
ME--?!
BUT I... I *PROTECT* INNOCENTS !
I SHOULD KNOW BETTER THAN TO TRY TO *REASON* WITH THIS PSYCHOPATH !
HE MAY SEE HIMSELF AS ONE OF THE *GOOD GUYS*, BUT, AS FAR AS I'M CONCERNED, ONLY A THIN *ILLUSION* OF SANITY DIFFERENTIATES HIM FROM CARNAGE !
THAT'S BOUND TO PRESENT A MAJOR PROBLEM AFTER WE--
UH-OH !
CARNAGE IS *GONE* !
LET IT BE ON *YOUR* CONSCIENCE IF HE SPILLS MORE BLOOD--!

FOR THE PAST FIFTY-SEVEN MINUTES, MARY JANE WATSON-PARKER HAS FERVENTLY SCOURED THE NIGHT.
HOPING FOR NEWS OF HER HUSBAND.
PRAYING IT WILL BE GOOD.
DREADING IT WON'T!
RINGGG!
HI, MARY JANE! SORRY TO BE CALLING SO LATE.
THIS IS FELICA HARDY.
I WAS JUST ON THE PHONE WITH FLASH THOMPSON, AND WE WERE WONDERING IF PETER MADE IT HOME ALL RIGHT.
WHAT...?!
THAT CAN ONLY MEAN THAT THE LATEST NEWS REPORTS ARE TRUE.
CARNAGE IS STILL ON THE LOOSE-- AND THAT WEB-SWINGING BOY SCOUT HAS GONE AFTER HIM!
PETER SHOULD HAVE MORE SENSE!
NOBODY CAN BEAT CARNAGE!
IT'S INSANE TO TRY!
AS THE BLACK CAT, I WAS COMPLETELY OVERWHELMED!
I HAD TO CALL IT QUITS...AND BARELY ESCAPED WITH MY LIFE!
AND YET, I CAN'T BEAR THE THOUGHT OF SPIDER-MAN FACING HIM ALONE--!
IF ONLY I COULD HELP--!
BUT... THAT... THAT WOULD BE SUICIDE!

MEANWHILE...
CAN'T BELIEVE THAT I'M ACTUALLY TEAMED WITH VENOM, AGAIN!
WHAT AM I SUPPOSED TO DO WITH HIM WHEN THIS IS OVER?
HE'S AS BLOODTHIRSTY AS EVER! I CERTAINLY CAN'T ALLOW HIM TO GO FREE, BUT--!
TIME IS RUNNING OUT, SPIDER-MAN!
WE ONLY HAVE A FREE SHOT AT KASADY WHILE HE REMAINS DELIRIOUS, BUT--!
NO NEED TO DRAW ME A DIAGRAM! WE'LL BOTH BE IN IT DEEP WHEN HE RECOVERS!
VENOM AND CARNAGE, THEY'RE SO ENTWINED IN MY MIND! I ALMOST CAN'T PICTURE ONE SURVIVING WITHOUT THE OTHER!
SORT OF LIKE THE WAY I USED TO FEEL ABOUT ME AND HARRY OSBORN.. BEFORE HE DIED!
LOOK! PEOPLE FLEEING THAT CEMETERY IN PANIC!
I'LL SAY ONE THING FOR KASADY, HE'S EASY TO FOLLOW!
HEY! I RECOGNIZE THIS PLACE-- BUY WHY IS CARNAGE HERE?!
I NEED SOMEWHERE I CAN BE SAFE UNTIL THE DRUMS STOP BEATING IN MY BRAIN!
RYKERS AND ST. ESTES MAY HAVE FAILED ME, BUT I KNOW SOMEONE WHO'S NEVER LET ME DOWN!
DEAR OLD MOM!
SHE'S RIGHT WHERE I LEFT HER AFTER DAD KILLED HER FOR TRYING TO KILL ME--
--OR AM I THINKING OF SOMEONE ELSE?
NOT THAT IT MATTERS!
I KNOW THAT SHE WON'T TURN ME AWAY!
SHE CAN'T!

WAY TO GO, SICKO! IS YOUR MIND SO FRIED THAT YOU'RE FORCED TO DIG UP YOUR GREATEST HITS?!
KASADY IS IN EVEN WORSE SHAPE THAN I THOUGHT!
HE'S SO DESPERATE... THAT HE'S RETREATING INTO HIS PAST... IN A VAIN ATTEMPT TO ESCAPE VENOM!
HAVE YOU NO SHAME?!
HOW DARE YOU INTERRUPT AN EMOTIONAL REUNION BETWEEN A LOVING MOTHER AND HER DEVOTED SON?!
PEOPLE DIDN'T ACT LIKE THAT ON THE WONDER YEARS!
WE DEMAND A LITTLE PRIVACY HERE!
YOU'LL GET IT!
WE'LL BURY YOU BOTH IN THE SAME COFFIN!
VENOM! IT'S OBVIOUS THAT KASADY HAS GONE COMPLETELY OVER THE BEND!
HE'S NO LONGER RESPONSIBLE FOR HIS ACTIONS--
--IF HE EVER WAS!
I SEE WHAT'S GOING ON HERE! YOU'RE TRYING TO MAKE ME LOOK BAD IN FRONT OF MY MOMMY!
YOU'RE JEALOUS BECAUSE I WAS CERTIFIABLE LONG BEFORE I EVER GOT TANGLED UP WITH YOU AND YOUR ALIEN SYMBIOTE!
ARRGGH!

THWIPP!
MAYBE I SHOULD JUST LET THESE TWO-- NAH! DEFINITELY NOT MY STYLE!
I WONDER IF I CAN BLIND CARNAGE WITH MY WEBBING?
HIS OLD ALIEN SYMBIOTE COULD RELAY VISUAL INFORMATION TO HIM, BUT THIS IS A WHOLE NEW COSTUME!
WELL, WHAT DO YOU KNOW? I MANAGED TO DISTRACT HIM ENOUGH FOR VENOM TO BREAK FREE!
YOU'VE DONE YOUR PART, SPIDER-MAN!
NOW GO GET YOURSELF A CUP OF COFFEE OR SOMETHING!
PWAKK!
THIS WILL BE SHORT, SWEET, AND OH, SO PAINFUL!
DON'T DO IT, VENOM! EVEN A MURDERING CREEP LIKE KASADY DESERVES BETTER!
YOU CAN'T SINK TO HIS LEVEL!
WE CERTAINLY CAN!
AND WE'LL LOVE EVERY MINUTE OF IT!

CARNAGE IS A THREAT TO *ALL* --
--INCLUDING MY *OTHER*!
WE *CANNOT* ALLOW HIM TO SURVIVE!
SLAMM
OOOO! WE'LL BET THAT SMARTS!
WHOOPS! ALMOST BATTED YOU RIGHT INTO THOSE *GENERATORS!*
YOU WOULD HAVE GONE UP IN A *FLASH* IN YOUR CURRENT CONDITION!
WE WOULDN'T WANT ANYTHING LIKE THAT TO HAPPEN... *NO*... WE WANT TO *EXTEND* YOUR SUFFERING FOR AS *LONG* AS POSSIBLE!
WE *OWE* YOU... FOR THE *PAIN* YOU'VE INFLICTED ON US... AND EVERY OTHER INNOCENT!

BACK OFF, VENOM!
TOO MANY PEOPLE HAVE ALREADY DIED! ONE MORE WON'T SOLVE ANYTHING!
YOU KNOW ALL ABOUT THE SICK CHILDHOOD KASADY ENDURED--THE ABUSE HE SUFFERED--IS IT ANY WONDER HE TURNED OUT LIKE HE DID?!
HE NEVER HAD A CHANCE!
IN HIS OWN FASHION, HE JUST MAY BE THE MOST INNOCENT OF ALL!
THE TIME HAS FINALLY COME FOR YOU TO PUT YOUR PERSONAL DEMONS TO REST, BROCK...TO BURY YOUR GHOSTS IN THE PAST... AND BEGIN THE HEALING PROCESS!
Lim & Jimbo 5/93

NICE SPEECH, WEBSTER!
BUT EVEN I DIDN'T BUY IT!
THAT PSYCHO-BABBLE IS GOOD FOR THE OCCASIONAL PLEA BARGAIN, BUT IT BEARS LITTLE RELATION TO REALITY!
I AM... THEREFORE I KILL!
'NUFF SAID--?!
OF ALL THE STUPID, CARELESS--WHOA! LOOK WHERE I LANDED!
I KNEW THIS PLACE WAS FAMILIAR!
DID CARNAGE THROW ME HERE DELIBERATELY--OR WAS IT JUST COINCIDENCE?!
ORMAN OSBORN
ELOVED ATHER
HAR OSB
LOV MEM
MAYBE I SHOULD LISTEN TO MY OWN ADVICE, AND BURY MY OWN GHOSTS... IF I EVER GET THE CHANCE!
SAYONARA, SPIDEY!
I CAN'T LET VENOM TAKE ME DOWN WITHOUT ONE FOR THE ROAD--
--AND GUESS WHO'S THE FALL GUY?

GAAAK!
FROM HERE... IT LOOKS LIKE A CERTAIN CRIMSON-CLAD MANIAC!
THE BLACK CAT--?!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
I WAS ON MY WAY TO ST. ESTES, WHEN I HEARD THE COMMOTION!
THAT ISN'T QUITE WHAT I MEANT! I... ER... DIDN'T EXPECT TO SEE YOU BACK IN THE FIGHT!
NEITHER DID I... BUT CATS ARE SUPPOSED TO HAVE NINE LIVES... SO I FIGURED I HAD A FEW TO SPARE!
I'M REAL GLAD YOU'RE HERE, LADY!
ME, TOO!

THIS PLACE IS GETTING A LITTLE TOO CROWDED!
SOOO I'LL JUST SNAG MOMMY DEAREST!
WHY DOES HE WANT THAT COFFIN?
WHO KNOWS?
WITH CARNAGE, SENSE WAS NEVER A HIGH PRIORITY!
TA-TA, ALL! I'LL SEE YOU IN THE FUNNY PAPERS!
MAKE THAT THE OBITUARY PAGE!
QWUNK!
WHILE WE HAVE THOROUGHLY ENJOYED THIS EVENING, WE CANNOT IGNORE THE DANGER YOU STILL REPRESENT!
YOU ALONE -- OF ALL WE HAVE EVER FOUGHT -- FILL US WITH FEAR!
YOU TORTURED US, AND BROUGHT US WITHIN A HAIRSBREATH OF OBLIVION!
AND YET, I AM HAUNTED BY SPIDER-MAN'S WORDS!
ARE YOU AN OBJECT OF HATRED--
--OR PITY?!

TELL ME, CARNAGE! I MUST KNOW IF YOU ARE WORTHY OF VENGEANCE--
--OR PROTECTION?!
WOO-BABY!
YOU PACK A HECKUVA WALLOP, PAL! THAT LAST SHOT FINALLY DID THE TRICK! IT CLEARED MY MIND... AS WELL AS MY SINUSES!
NO MORE COBWEBS! I CAN THINK AS CLEAR AS EVER!
THEN, WE HAVE NO CHOICE--!
WE MUST ACT BEFORE YOU DO!
SLOW DOWN, BROCK!
YOU DON'T WANT TO ACCIDENTLY HIT THOSE GENERATORS--!
DO NOT ENTER-DANGER!
NO...
NOT ACCIDENTLY!
SPA-QWOOM!

BROCK REALIZED THAT CARNAGE WAS ABOUT TO REGAIN HIS FULL POWER--
--AND DELIBERATELY SACRIFICED HIMSELF TO SAVE US!
WE... WE MAY OWE HIM OUR LIVES!
LOOK--!
THERE'S A FIGURE LYING AMID THE FLAMES!
WHO IS IT--?!
KASADY!
HE'S BADLY BURNED AND HARDLY BREATHING.
I DON'T SUPPOSE I COULD CONVINCE YOU TO--
NO WAY!
NEVER MIND!
ODD THAT THERE'S NO SIGN OF VENOM'S BODY!
THERE'S A CHANCE HE'S STILL ALIVE! I GUESS WE SHOULD MOUNT A SEARCH FOR HIM!
I GUESS...
ON THE OTHER HAND, THE WAY HIS LIVING COSTUME CAN BLEND INTO ANY SURROUNDING--
"--THERE'S ABSOLUTELY NO WAY TO FIND HIM UNLESS HE WANTS TO BE FOUND!"
OUR WORK HERE IS DONE!
AND IT'LL TAKE US A WHILE JUST TO RECOVER FROM THAT EXPLOSION!
I'M STILL NOT SURE ABOUT LEAVING KASADY!
IT WAS SPIDER-MAN'S IDEA! LET HIM WORRY ABOUT IT!
HE'S REAL GOOD AT THAT SORT OF THING!
"THE CAT'S RIGHT! THERE'S NO WAY WE CAN TRACK VENOM..."

...OR AM ONLY *RATIONALIZING* BECAUSE THE GUY JUST SAVED MY--
HEY! WE HAVE *COMPANY!*
THAT DOESN'T LOOK LIKE ANY *HELICOPTER* I'VE EVER SEEN!
IT ISN'T--
"--IT'S AN *AVENGERS QUINJET!*"
CAREFUL WITH THIS JOKER!
CAPTAIN AMERICA HAS ALREADY ADVISED US OF KASADY'S *ABILITY* TO *REGENERATE* HIS COSTUME.
WE CAME EQUIPPED WITH A *STASIS CONTAINER.*
THESE *AVENGERS* DON'T LOOK SO TOUGH! I'LL BET I COULD MAKE THE CUT--
--IF I TRIED!
UH, SPIDER...
I DON'T MEAN TO WEIRD YOU OUT, BUT THAT *COFFIN* CARNAGE DUG UP... *IT'S EMPTY!*
THE OLD EMPTY COFFIN TRICK, HUH? I WONDER WHAT KASADY WAS PLANNING--!
MAYBE KASADY DIDN'T LEAVE ENOUGH OF HIS MOTHER'S BODY TO BURY...OR HE COULD HAVE HAD A BIZARRE REASON FOR WANTING IT EMPTY!
Ah, WE COULD DO THIS ALL DAY... WITH A GUY LIKE KASADY.. THERE'S NO GUARANTEE OF A *LOGICAL* EXPLANATION!
S'FUNNY! EVEN THOUGH HE'S IN AVENGERS CUSTODY, I DON'T KNOW IF I'LL EVER FEEL TRULY *SAFE* FROM CARNAGE!
MONSTERS LIKE THAT ALWAYS HAVE A WAY OF *RETURNING!*
YOU NEED TO HAVE A LITTLE *FAITH,* PRETTY LADY!
BELIEVE IT OR NOT SOME MONSTERS STAY *DEAD* AND *BURIED* FOREVER--AND THEIR GHOSTS *CAN'T* HAUNT YOU UNLESS YOU ALLOW THEM!
I HOPE.
NORMAN OSBORN BELOVED FATHER
HARRY OSBORN IN LOVING MEMORY
THE END OF *MAXIMUM CARNAGE!*

MARVEL® COMICS

SPIDER-MAN® PUNISHER® SABRETOOTH™

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KW

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SPIDER-MAN® PUNISHER® SABRETOOTH™

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A GLORIOUSLY PEACEFUL WINTER EVENING IN NEW YORK CITY--
--SPECIFICALLY, THE EMPIRE STATE UNIVERSITY CAMPUS ON THE LOWER WEST SIDE...
ESU
...IS JUST AN ACCIDENT WAITING TO HAPPEN.
ESU
KAWHOOM

OOPS
FIRST LESSON I LEARNED IN HIGH SCHOOL CHEMISTRY--
--EVACUATE THE PREMISES AND WAIT FOR THE FIRE DEPARTMENT!
BUT I'VE GOT SOME SKILLS AN ORDINARY GUY DOESN'T--
--WHICH COULD ACCOMPLISH A LOT BEFORE EVEN MORE DAMAGE GETS DONE.
OF COURSE, ONE THING'S BEEN CONSTANT FROM MY EARLIEST STUDENT DAYS--
--*PETER PARKER* IS STILL HIS OWN WORST ENEMY.
FWOOSH
WHO ELSE WOULD WORK TWO DAYS STRAIGHT TO CATCH UP ON HIS *POST-GRADUATE SCIENCE CREDITS*...
...AND *BLOW* IT ALL AWAY-- ALONG WITH HALF AN E.S.U. SCIENCE DEPARTMENT LAB-- WITH ONE EXHAUSTED MISTAKE?
MAYBE I CAN AT LEAST KEEP THE *BILL FOR DAMAGES* TO A MINIMUM IF I JUST *CLEAN UP* A LITTLE... AND SCRUB THE WALLS...
...REBUILD THE COUNTER ...REPLACE THE WINDOW...
LET'S SEE IF ANYTHING WAS DAMAGED IN--
STORAGE

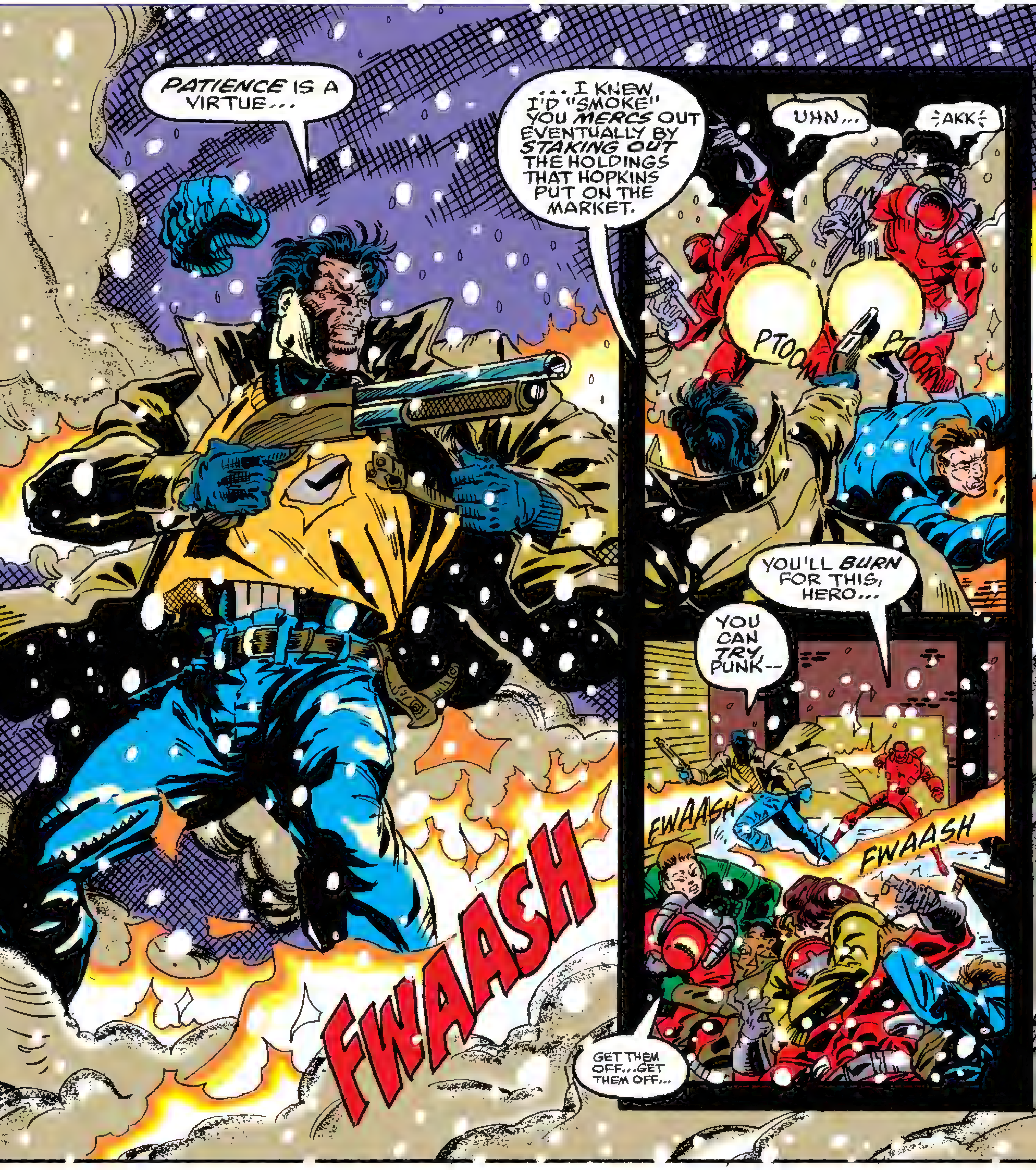
--here...
THE LAB ANIMALS...
STORAGE
...TORN TO SHREDS!
STENCH IS MAKING ME *SICK*--
...BUT I CAN STILL *HEAR* THE MONSTER THAT DID THIS POUNDING DOWN THE *STAIRS*...
EXIT
...AND FROM THE LOOK AND LENGTH OF ITS *BLOODY STRIDE, MONSTER* IS AN APT DESCRIPTION.
BUT THEN AGAIN, SOME PEOPLE MIGHT SAY THE SAME ABOUT A MAN BITTEN BY A *RADIOACTIVE SPIDER* IN AN EXPERIMENT GONE AWRY...
...IF THEY KNEW HE'D GAINED THE *PROPORTIONATE STRENGTH* AND *SPEED* OF THAT ARACHNID TO BECOME--

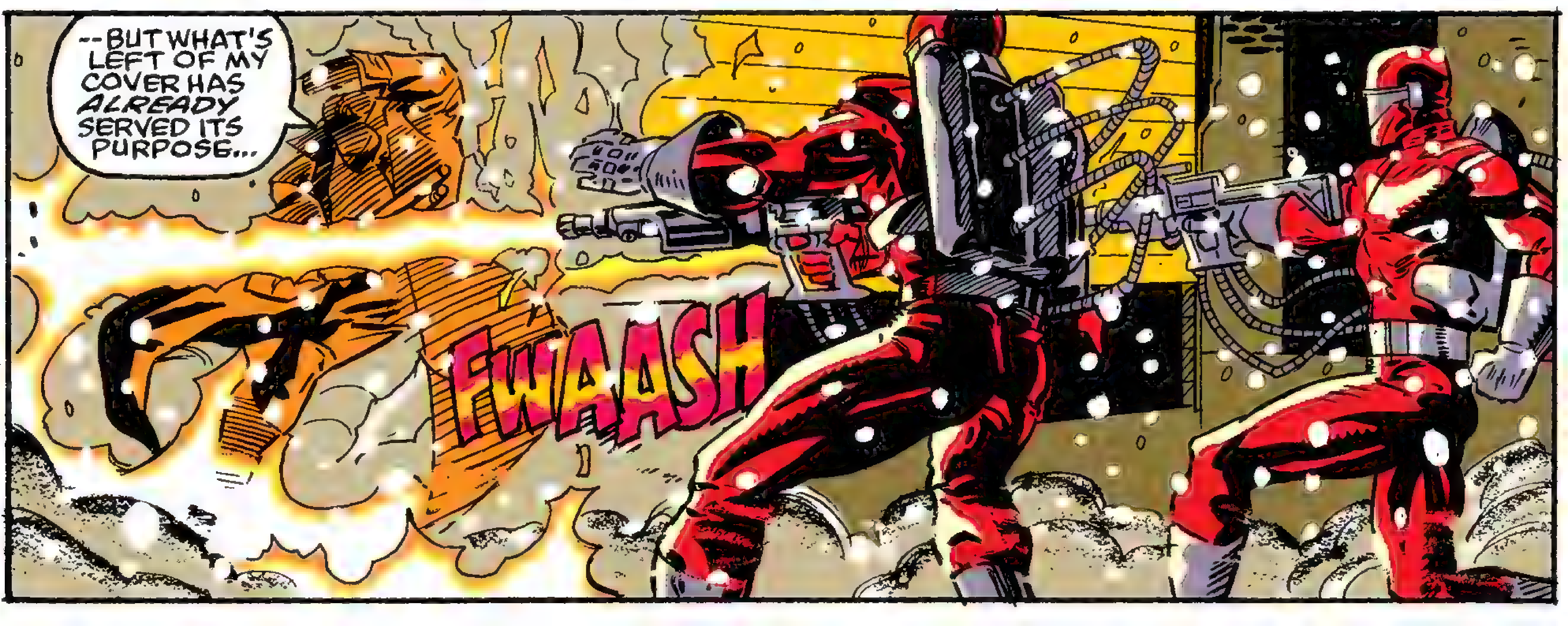
SKRAASH
SPIDER-MAN!?

AND THE ILLUSION OF PEACE IN THE CITY IS FOREVER SHATTERED...
--SURE, I HEARD THE EXPLOSION EARLIER, OFFICERS, BUT GUARDING THE SCIENCE BUILDING'S A REAL SPECIALIZED TYPE JOB THAT REQUIRES KNOWING WHEN TO--
YET YOU SAW NO SIGN OF THE INTRUDER THAT MR. PARKER REPORTED IN THE STAIRWELL...?
NOBODY CAME BY ME UNTIL I HEARD THIS EXPLOSION AND THEN SPIDER-MAN BURST THROUGH THE LOCKED DOORS, SHOUTING QUESTIONS ABOUT SOME SORT OF MONST--
THANKS FOR YOUR HELP, MR. LYNCH, BUT YOU'D BETTER GET BACK TO YOUR POST NOW...
...STORM'S STARTING TO PICK UP.
GUARD'S PROBABLY JUST COVERING FOR AN ON-DUTY NAP...
...BUT THOSE WEIRD FOOTPRINTS KEEP NAGGING AT ME...
GRRR
...AND SOMEBODY--OR SOMETHING--BUTCHERED THOSE POOR ANIMALS.

FORENSICS TEAM DISCOVERED WHOLE ORGANS *MISSING* FROM THE BRUTALLY SAVAGED CRITTER CORPSES, BUT NO EVIDENCE OF ANY *WEAPONS*...
...SO THEY HAD TO CONCLUDE THAT SOME KIND OF *WILD BEAST* IS LOOSE IN THE BIG APPLE.
BUT *I* CAN'T BUY THAT.
DON'T KNOW WHAT I EXPECTED TO FIND HERE *NOW*, THOUGH... JANITORS'VE ALREADY *CLEANED UP* THE CRIME SCENE AND--
THAT'S *IT!*
JUST REALIZED-- THE KILLERS BLOODY TRACKS *STOPPED DEAD* AT THE STAIRWELL DOOR WHEN I WAS CHASING IT...
...AS IF THE FLOOR *OUTSIDE* HAD ALREADY BEEN QUICKLY-- AND CONVENIENTLY-- *CLEANED* BEHIND IT.
AND THAT WOULD REQUIRE A *HUMAN* "PREDATOR"!..
PETER PARKER'S PASSWORD GETS ME *INTO* THE SYSTEM-- AND SOME *CREATIVE ALGORITHMS* WILL ACCESS THE SCHOOL'S *PRIVATE PERSONNEL FILES.*
GOT THE *ADDRESS*... NOW I'VE GOT TO GET *OUT* OF HERE--
--BEFORE I ATTRACT *TROUBLE.*

BUT, ON THE LOWER EAST SIDE OF MANHATTAN, TROUBLE IS A WAY OF LIFE FOR THE LONG-TIME RESIDENTS OF ALPHABET CITY--
--AS REAL ESTATE BECOMES MORE AND MORE OF A PREMIUM COMMODITY...
...AND PEOPLE BECOME LESS AND LESS OF ONE.
FOR SALE-- NEWLY RENOVATED REALTOR F. HOPKINS
ENJOY THE FIRE WITH US FOR AWHILE, FRANKIE, BUT DON'T GET TOO COMFORTABLE--
MORE LIKE ROASTING, PIXIE...
--OWNER OF THAT TOWNHOUSE NEXT DOOR HAS TAKEN TO ROUSTING "UNDESIRABLE" NEIGHBORS TO IMPROVE HIS PROPERTY VALUES,
...WORD ON THE STREET IS THAT HOPKINS IMPORTED A CANADIAN ARSONIST SQUAD TO DEAL WITH HIS HOMELESS "PROBLEM"--
PERMANENTLY.
FWAASH
FWAASH
FWAASH
THE SCORCHERS!
SCATTER!


PATIENCE IS A VIRTUE...
...I KNEW I'D "SMOKE" YOU MERCS OUT EVENTUALLY BY STAKING OUT THE HOLDINGS THAT HOPKINS PUT ON THE MARKET.
UHN...
AKK
PTOOM
PTOOM
YOU'LL BURN FOR THIS, HERO...
YOU CAN TRY, PUNK--
FWAASH
FWAASH
GET THEM OFF...GET THEM OFF...
FWAASH


--BUT WHAT'S LEFT OF MY COVER HAS ALREADY SERVED ITS PURPOSE...
FWAASH

PTOOM
...AND THE PUNISHER CAN TAKE THE HEAT!
FWAASH

THANKS TO *FLAME-INSULATED KEVLAR*--
PTOOM PTOOM
--AND A LITTLE *HELP* FROM SOME...
FRIENDS.
ERK
UHFF
SCORCHERS' *BOSS* WON'T BE REAL HAPPY ABOUT WHAT THEY ACCIDENTALLY DID TO HIS PRECIOUS NEW *TINDERBOX*...
ESPECIALLY WHEN THESE TWO START *NAMING NAMES* TO THE COPS.
NO PROBLEM... WE'LL TELL'EM *EVERYTHING*...
HOPKINS HIRED US TO CLEAR THE VICINITY ANY WAY WE COULD...
AROOWA AROOWA AROOWA AROOWA AROOWA AROO
ALL I NEEDED TO KNOW.
GREEDY SLUMLORD WILL MAKE A REAL *EASY TARGET* IN HIS NICE, WARM UPTOWN PENTHOU--
NO, FRANKIE... NOT YET.
THERE ARE *DARKER CORNERS* OF OUR UNDERWORLD WHERE EVEN THE POLICE FEAR TO TREAD...
...BUT THE PUNISHER'S *JUSTICE* IS SORELY *NEEDED.*
--AS WE PREPARE TO COMMEND THE CORPOREAL BODIES OF OUR LOVED ONES TO THE SEA...

NOBODY LIVES *FOREVER*, PIXIE...
...WHAT DO YOU PEOPLE WANT FROM *ME*?
RESPECT FOR OUR *DEAD*...
...OR WHAT'S *LEFT* OF THEM.
WHO...
...DID...
...THIS?
--BESEECH THEE TO ACCEPT THEIR SOULS INTO YOUR DEEP EMBRACE.
WE FOUND BARRY AND GERT DOWN THIS *ALLEY* A FEW HOURS AGO...
BUT THE BUTCHER THAT GUTTED THEM WAS ALREADY LONG *GONE*.
NOT THE WAY THE SCORCHERS WORK. AND *MICROCHIP*'S INVENTORY OF HOPKINS'S PROPERTIES DIDN'T INCLUDE ANY ADDRESSES ON *THIS* PARTICULAR STREET...
...WHICH MEANS SOME *OTHER* URBAN ANIMAL IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS MASSACRE.
GRRR

TRAIL ENDS AT THIS MANHOLE...
YOUR FRIEND BOLTED. THEY SCARED OF A LITTLE BLOOD, PIXIE?
NOT LIKELY.
AND THEY'RE FAMILY...
...OR THE CLOSEST THING MOST OF US HAVE TO IT.
FAMILY ISN'T ALL IT'S...
UHFF
...CRACKED UP TO BE.
BITTER, FRANKIE...?
STREET MUSIC HAS IT THAT THE PUNISHER'S WIFE AND KIDS WERE KILLED IN A MOB CROSSFIRE DURING A PICNIC IN THE PAR--
THREE PEOPLE IN THE WRONG PLACE AT THE WRONG TIME...
DON'T MAKE THE SAME MISTAKE.
I HEAR YOU, FRIEND--
TOO LITTLE, TOO LATE...

...SABRETOOTH PROWLS THE CITY!
YAAIIIEEEEE!

AAARGH!
WHUMP
NOTHIN' PERSONAL, RUNT... JUST *FOLLOWIN'* MY *NOSE*.
SKRAK
SHLIK
AND YOUR LITTLE *PIG-STICKER*--
--AIN'T ABOUT TO SLOW DOWN THE *ORIGINAL MUTANT* WITH A *HEALING FACTOR*.
CH- CHEST...
HURTS... A LOT. BUT MY *CLAWS* ONLY *KILL* FOR MONEY...
...AND *REVENGE*.

NOT FAR NORTH OF MANHATTAN STANDS THE BRONX ZOO...
...ONE OF THE FEW SANCTUARIES DESIGNED TO PROTECT NEW YORK'S RELATIVELY SMALL WILD ANIMAL POPULATION FROM THE URBAN JUNGLE SURROUNDING IT.
BUT, HIDDEN BEHIND AN OMNIUM STEEL DOOR DEEP BELOW A DERELICT TENEMENT BUILDING IN THE VERY SHADOW OF THE ZOO...
SKREEEEEE
...SECRETS LURK AND FESTER.
AND WHERE PAIN MEETS SCIENCE...
SKREEAK
YIP YIP
BZZZT
AROOO
...HUMAN INGENUITY BLOSSOMS DARKLY.
THE DOGS AND MONKEYS ARE HARDIER, BUT THIS CAT'S ALREADY DEAD... GENETIC MATERIAL'S ATROPHYING BY NOW.
JUST HAVE TO INCREASE THE PACE OF THE SPINAL DRAIN ON THE NEXT FELINE.
BUT WE'RE BACK TO STEP ONE...
SHREEEA
AWO OO

THE 59th ST. BRIDGE IS ONE OF MANY WAYS FOR COMMUTERS TO TRAVEL FROM MANHATTAN TO QUEENS.
AND, LIKE ALL SEASONED NINE-TO-FIVERS, ITS RUSH-HOUR PASSENGERS CONSTANTLY EXPECT THE WORST...
...AND NEW YORK RARELY DISAPPOINTS THEM.
FWAMP
THE ACCESS PANEL--!
BUT IT CAN STILL SURPRISE THEM...
EEK!
SAME TO YOU.
BUT THE ROOSEVELT ISLAND TRAM IS THE ONLY DIRECT WAY FOR STRAPHANGERS TO RETURN TO THEIR ISOLATED ISLE.
SPIDER-MAN AGAIN? MAYBE HE WON'T SEE--
--MEEEEE!
JUST SHOPPING FOR A LABORATORY RAT...

FACT IS, *LYNCH*, YOU WOULDN'T EVEN MAKE A FIT *REPLACEMENT* FOR THE E.S.U. RODENTS YOU HELPED SLAUGHTER.
WH-WHAT ARE YOU *T-TALKING* ABOUT--?!
CAN'T SWALLOW THE *LINE* YOU FED TO THE COPS EARLIER, MR. "SECURITY GUARD".
IT'S T-TRUE... I S-*SWEAR*... ALL TRUE...
I *KNOW* THERE WAS *SOMETHING* IN THAT STAIRWELL. I *KNOW* YOU LET IT THROUGH AND LOCKED THE DOOR BEHIND IT. I *KNOW* YOU CLEANED UP AFTER IT.
AND I *KNOW* YOU'RE GOING TO TELL ME *WHERE* I CAN FIND IT.
MY POCKETS--!
YOUR *BLOOD MONEY* FEEDS THE FISHES, LYNCH...
...GUESS *WHO'S* DESSERT.
A HALF-DEMOLISHED ABANDONED CRACK-HOUSE, A BLOCK SOUTH-EAST OF THE BRONX ZOO... I COLLECTED THE CASH UP THERE FROM SOME OLD GEEZER WITH HIS HEAD IN THE CLOUDS.
BUT THAT CREATURE THAT RAN THROUGH THE SCIENCE DEPARTMENT LOBBY LAST NIGHT WASN'T EVEN... HUMAN.
YOU'RE HARDLY ONE TO TALK, MR. LYNCH.
GET HOME SAFELY.
THWIP

IT'S A FEW MILES FROM MID-MANHATTAN TO THE BRONX...
...AND MOST PEOPLE PREFER TO CONDUCT THEIR BUSINESS OVER THE PHONE.
--DO ANYTHING ABOUT THAT INCESSANT CATERWAULING?
CAN'T BE HELPED IF YOU WANT RESULTS, KID.
SKREEEEEE
YIP YIP
PLEASE TRY TO REMEMBER, DOCTOR CHAMBERS-- IN THIS PARTICULAR ENTERPRISE, I AM YOUR EMPLOYER... NOT YOUR LITTLE BROTHER.
AS LONG AS YOU DON'T FORGET THAT THIS PROJECT WOULD BE NOWHERE WITHOUT THE INFORMATION I BROUGHT FROM CANADA, BRANDON.
AROOO
JUST AS YOU WOULD BE HELPLESS WITHOUT THE RESOURCES AT MY COMMAND, PHILLIP...
FROM THE TOP OF THE CITY...
THE SHADOW I PUT ON LYNCH JUST REPORTED THAT SPIDER-MAN AND OUR INSIDE MAN HAD A LITTLE TETE-A-TETE OVER THE EAST RIVER.
YOUR LOCATION MAY HAVE BEEN COMPROMISED... IT WOULD BE BEST TO RELOCATE BACK HERE TO THE CORPORATE LABORATORY UNTIL OUR NEW HEADQUARTERS NEXT DOOR IS FINISHED.
I'LL BEGIN DOWNLOADING THE RELEVANT--AND INCRIMINATING--DATA, AND PACKING UP THE HEALTHY ANIMALS...
...BUT YOU WOULDN'T WANT ME TO LEAVE HERE UNTIL OUR FIELD AGENT RETURNS WITH MY FRESH SUPPLY OF "REPLACEMENT PARTS," WOULD YOU, PHILLIP?
YOUR SENTIMENTALITY, DOCTOR...
...WILL SOMEDAY BE THE DEATH OF YOU.
ROXX

...TO THE VERY BOTTOM...
...VERMIN ENJOY FREE REIGN IN THE BIG APPLE.
SQUEE
SQUEE
AND, DESPITE NEW YORK'S SEEMINGLY-ETERNAL FISCAL CRISIS, THERE'S THERE'S ALWAYS WORK...
...FOR EXTERMINATORS.
SQUEEE
WAR JOURNAL ENTRY: THE RENDEZVOUS WITH MICRO TO COLLECT MY EQUIPMENT COST SOME TIME, AND THE BLOOD TRAIL PETERS OUT...
...IN THE MIDDLE OF NOWHERE.
THERE'S NO WAY TO KNOW WHICH TUNNEL THE BUTCHER FOLLOWED TO HIS LAIR FROM THIS CROSSROADS...
SKREEE
...'EVEN MY INFRA-RED SPECS ARE USELESS AT THIS POINT--
PUNISHER...
AMBUSH!

CYCLE'S *SILENT EMISSION SYSTEM* SHOULD HAVE *PREVENTED* THIS...
YIKES!
POOM
KRAK
...BUT I'M ONLY OFFERING *ONE* WARNING SHOT.
WE KNOW HOW TO S-SNEAK AROUND DOWN HERE. P-PIXIE SAID YOU WERE A *FRIEND* TO US...
...SHE SENT WORD THROUGH THE "UNDERGROUND" TO *HELP* YOU--
HELP *OURSELVES.*
WE'VE *SEEN* THE CREATURE YOU SEEK IN OUR SEWERS--
--DRAGGING OBSCENE *TROPHIES* OF HIS *KILLS* ALONG IN HIS BLOODY CLAWS.
BIG AND *HAIRY,* MORE *ANIMAL* THAN MAN--
WHERE?!
IT WENT *THAT*-A-WAY.
THEN YOU TWO GO THE *OTHER* WAY.
I WANTED TO TELL HIM...
HE ASKED *ME*...
SKREEEE
AS BELOW...

...SO ABOVE.
BUT THE DARKEST DEALINGS IN THE CITY ARE HIDDEN RIGHT OUT IN THE OPEN.
AS THE MAJOR INVESTOR IN MY LITTLE SIDE-VENTURE, YOUR NEED WILL BE CONSIDERED FIRST, OF COURSE...
ROXXON
...BUT, ONCE FREED OF THAT OBLIGATION, OUR OPERATION WILL SOON BEGIN TAKING BIDS THROUGHOUT THE ENTIRE CRIMINAL UNDERWORLD.
AS WE AGREED, CHAMBERS.
BUT YOU ALSO OFFERED DELIVERY OF THE INITIAL BATCH TO MY ORGANIZATION WITHIN THIRTY DAYS.
I HAVE A WORKING PROTOTYPE OF THE SERUM IN MY HANDS ALREADY, MR. GREYCREST.
IT'S JUST A MATTER OF DAYS UNTIL OUR SUPPLY...
...CAN MEET YOUR DEMANDS.
ALTHOUGH A HOME-MADE WEB-LINE IS ONE OF THE FEW SURE-FIRE WAYS TO AVOID THE CROWDS IN NEW YORK...
THWIP
RO

...A RAGING SNOW-STORM CAN STILL MAKE THE BRONX SEEM LIKE A WORLD AWAY.
BUT, FAR UNDER GROUND...
...THE TRUE TURMOIL CENTERS AROUND A MAN...
SNFF SNFF
...AND THE BEAST... WITHIN.
SNFF...?
...WIRES... DOCTORS...
...PAIN...
FOXES... WOLVERINES... JUNGLE CATS...
...HIM!
GRRRROOOWWR
IT'S HAPPENING ALL OVER AGAIN--!
YIP YIP
HOWWL
WHIIINE

SKRASH
FREEZE!
DIE!
POOM
POOM

GUESS IT'S TRUE WHAT THEY SAY, PUNISHER-- NEW YORK IS A SMALL WORLD AFTER ALL...
NOT NECESSARILY-- ODDS ARE WE'RE AFTER THE SAME THING, SPIDER-MAN...
...AND I DO MEAN "THING".
SOME KIND OF BLOOD FRENZY--!
GRAAR!
YOOWWL
SHRAK
PUNISHER-- DON'T SHOOT --HE MAY NOT--
WRNCH
BUDDA
BUDDA
BUDDA
SABRETOOTH'S MINE!
PRRRREY!
BUDDA
BUDDA

THANKS FOR MAKING *SURE* HE'S TOO MAD TO REASON WITH, PUNISHER!
THWOK
SHISH
GET *REAL*, WALL-CRAWLER! HE'S A KILLER WHO NEEDS BEING DEAD.
TEK

HEADS UP!
OUT OF MY WAY, IDIOTS--
TOO FAST...!
SLISH
--THERE'S A DOCTOR I KNOW THAT'S NEEDIN' A TASTE OF HIS OWN MEDICINE.
NOT JUST YET, SABRETOOTH...
BUDDA-BUD
SPIDER-MAN, NO-- YOU'RE CROSSING MY LINE-OF-FIRE--
--I HAD TO PULL MY SHOT.
AND HE HAD TO LEAVE HIMSELF WIDE OPEN...
TO "INSANITY CLAWS" HIMSELF!

KPOW
CONSIDER THOSE TALONS *PERMANENTLY TRIMMED,* PUSSYCAT.
YOU DON'T *KNOW* ME VERY WELL, PUNISHER...
...*LUCKY* FOR YOU.
UHFF
I HAVE TO *SEE* A MAN ABOUT A *HORSE*...
...AND SOME DOGS, AND CATS, AND RATS-- AND *GUINEA PIGS* OF ALL KINDS.
SKRAAK
BUT, JUST IN CASE YOU'RE THINKING OF *FOLLOWING*...
SKRAAK
THE SUPPORT PILLAR--?
...DON'T.
KAPOOM
THE *CEILING*--!

I'M VERY *PARTICULAR* ABOUT THE *COMPANY* I KEEP, PUNISHER...
...NEXT TIME, BRING YOUR OWN *WEB-UMBRELLA* TO THE BALL-PARK.
THWIP
THWIP
Ktink
THIS *ISN'T* A GAME, SPIDER-MAN...
...AND OUR TEAM IS *LOSING.*
BUDDA
BUDDA-BUDDA
I *WON'T* ALLOW YOU TO *MURDER* SABRETOOTH IN COLD BLOOD, PUNISHER...
...BUT I'M *NOT* LETTING THAT VICIOUS BUTCHER *GET AWAY* EITHER.
I'M IN IT FOR THE DURATION, SPIDER-MAN...
THWIP
...JUST GET ME TO THE HURT ON TIME.

I COULD HAVE DROPPED YOU...
YOU DIDN'T.
SOMETHING TO DO WITH THE LESSER OF TWO EVILS...
...I JUST HOPE I LIVE TO REGRET IT.
SABRETOOTH'S GONE.
BUT HE WAS INJURED, BLEEDING...
HE DOESN'T CALL HIMSELF A MUTANT JUST FOR THE HECK OF IT--
--HIS HEALING FACTOR ALLOWS HIS BODY TO REGENERATE DAMAGED CELLS AT A RAPIDLY ACCELERATED RATE.
YOU SOUND LIKE THIS ALL MAKES SENSE TO YOU--
HOLD IT... THERE'S DANGER FROM THE WATER TOWER--
GRRRR...
BUDDA
--ABOVE!
JUST IN TIME, SPIDER-MAN...

...I HIT HIM *POINT-BLANK.*
NO...
THUD
THIS IS *RIDICULOUS*-- HE'S *BROKEN,* HE'S *BLEEDING...*
...BUT HE'S *ALIVE.*
AND, LIKE ANY OTHER *WOUNDED ANIMAL,* SABRETOOTH'S DRAGGING HIMSELF TOWARDS THE CLOSEST *NATURAL* ENVIRONMENT...
...*THE BRONX ZOO.*

YOU DON'T EVEN HAVE ANY WAY DOWN FROM THIS ROOF, PUNISHER.
AND YOUR WEB-LINES CAN'T CATCH UP TO SABRETOOTH THROUGH THIS STORM, SPIDER-MAN...
...BUT MY BOOBY-TRAPPED BIKE CAN.
IF I MOVE FAST ENOUGH.
"WE," PUNISHER...
...BUT NEITHER OF US HAS TO LIKE IT.
YOU'RE AS DANGEROUS AS SABRETOOTH...
...YOU JUST DON'T KNOW IT.
AND YOU DON'T KNOW THE HALF OF IT, SPIDER-MAN.
SKREEE

SABRETOOTH MADE IT TO THE *ZOO* ALREADY...
THW
THEN POUR ON THE *SPEED,* PUNISHER--
--WE'RE GOING *IN.*
WHUD
TARGET'S *LOST* A LOT OF *BLOOD.*
I'M TAKING SABRETOOTH *ALIVE,* VIGILANTE.
WUMP
YOU CAN *TRY,* DO-GOODER--
WAIT, SLOW DOWN, SOMETHING'S--
--WRONG.
GRRR.
ROWWR
KRCCH
GRRR

WHERE IS DOCTOR DOOLITTLE WHEN YOU NEED HIM...?
ROWWR
TALKING TO THESE LIONS WON'T HELP, SPIDER-MAN.
GRRR
AND A MOTOR-CYCLE-OIL MASSAGE WILL...?
SOME OF US HAVE TO CREATE OUR OWN "EDGE."
THIS PRIDE IS PRIMED TO POUNCE-- ALMOST AS IF THEY'RE PROTECTING A WOUNDED...
...CUB?!
PRRR
I SEE HIM--!
YEEARR!
GUT SHOT.
KPOW
NO--!
ROOAAR
GRRRAAR
GRRR

WAP
SLIISH
GREASE-SLICK KEVLAR'S NOT GOING TO FRUSTRATE THE KITTIES FOR LONG...
...WE HAVE TO PUT THEM AWAY.
THESE ANIMALS ARE JUST DEFENDING THEMSELVES, YOU TRIGGER-HAPPY--
YIP
YIP
BUDDA
BUDDA
CATS ARE IN FOR THE NIGHT...
APOLOGY ACCEPTED.
I DON'T HURT THE INNOCENT...
...I PUNISH THE GUILTY. STARTING WITH HIM.
THWIIPP
NO CAN DO, "PARTNER."
NEVER PARTNERS, SPIDER-MAN...
AND WE'RE NOT GOING TO BE FRIENDS...

...SO LET'S GET THIS OVER WITH...
...ONCE AND FOR ALL!
BUDDA BUDDA
SKREEE

WEAPONS GIVE ME THE ADVANTAGE IN DISTANCE COMBAT, HERO.
BUDDA
THWIP
FUNNY, PUNISHER... I LIKE TO THINK MY PHENOMENAL AGILITY, INCREDIBLE WEBBING, AND UNIQUE STICK-TO-IT-IVENESS--
--MAKE ME THE SUPERIOR DEBATER.
UHN...
SKRRNCH
BUDDA
BUDDA
BUDDA
BUDDA
SKRAK
DID I MENTION MY WINNING PERSONALITY--
OR MY BIG MOUPH
WHUMP

BUDDA BUDDA
I'M SHOOTING TO WOUND, SPIDER-MAN...
...I ONLY KILL THOSE WHO DESERVE IT--
UFF
BY WHOSE STANDARDS, PUNISHER...?
YOUR TWISTED ONES?
SABRE-TOOTH'S VICTIMS ARE THE JUDGES...
...AND THEIR GHOSTS ARE THE JURY.
I'M JUST THE EXECUTIONER.
NO! PUNISHER'S DROPPED A THERMITE--
--GRENADE!
FAWOOM

WEB-BALLS WON'T STOP ME NOW, SPIDER-MAN.
SEMI-SEMI-AUTOMATIC'S IN *REACH*...
...AND SABRETOOTH'S *EXTINCT*--
THWIP
I TOLD YOU *NOT* TO PLAY WITH GUNS, PUNISHER...
...SOMETHING'S BOUND TO GET *BROKEN.*
SKREK
THAT'S WHY I ALWAYS PACK A *SPARE* IN THE TRUNK.
IT'S *OVER,* SABRETOOTH.
YOU'RE *RIGHT,* PUNISHER...
...ONE WAY OR ANOTHER.

HE'S ON A VERY THIN LEASH, SABRETOOTH...
WITH A VERY BIG GUN.
WHY THE LITTLE SLAUGHTER SPREE...?
NOT MY WORK...
...NO MONEY IN DOIN' HELPLESS ANIMALS AND HOMELESS BUMS.
WRONG ANSWER.
I FOLLOWED THE MURDERER TO THAT HIDDEN LAB AND WE BOTH SAW YOU TEARING APART THE CAGED CRITTERS.
I HAD A MOMENTARY "INCIDENT" WHEN I SAW THE CONDITION OF THOSE TORTURED CREATURES--BUT IT PASSED.
CONSIDER IT A "MERCY KILLIN'."
MY PAST HAS A REAL WAY O'COMIN' BACK TO HAUNT ME, Y'SEE, AND I TRACKED ONE... PAINFUL MEMORY RIGHT HERE TO THE SOUTH BRONX.
PERSONAL VENDETTA LED ME TO THAT PLACE A FEW MINUTES BEFORE YOU TWO, BUT IT WAS ALREADY DESERTED--EXCEPT FOR THE FEW SURVIVING... EXPERIMENTS.
BUT IT LOOKS LIKE THIS PARTICULAR MAD SCIENTIST HAS BROUGHT HIS CANADIAN GOVERNMENT-SERVICE EXPERIENCE...
...HOME TO THE BETTER-FUNDED PRIVATE SECTOR.
Property of ROXON 2125559243
THIS IS WHY YOU NEED TO TRY TALKING BEFORE SHOOTING MORE OFTEN, PUNISHER.
NOT BUYING IT, SPIDER-MAN--THIS BUTCHER'S A PROFESSIONAL ASSASSIN...
WE'RE ALL AFTER THE SAME THING HERE, GENTLEMEN...
LOOK OUT--!
SHLIISH
HE'S HEALED--?!
UKK--!
...VENGEANCE.

LAST DANCE, PUNISHER...
THWAP
THWIP
SORRY, SABRE--
MPPH
--YOU'RE TAKING THE CONCEPT OF "SNOW ANGEL" WAY TOO FAR.
AND THE PUNISHER'S HARDLY AN APPROPRIATE CANDIDATE...!
YOU CAN HAVE EACH OTHER, SPIDER-PEST--
SHRIIP
--I'VE GOT PRIVATE BUSINESS TO ATTEND TO, MEN. ADIOS.
YOU MUST BE FASTER THAN YOU LOOK, PUNISHER ...KEVLAR SAVED MOST OF YOUR THROAT.
AND MY WEBBING WILL KEEP THE WOUND CLOSED UNTIL THE POLICE GET HERE TO FIND YOU ALL WRAPPED UP--
THWIP
HUNT'S NOT OVER FOR ME JUST YET, SPIDER-MAN...
KLIK
'S WHAT I GET FOR IGNORING MY SPIDER-SENSE TO HELP THIS GUY.
I DON'T HAVE TIME FOR ANOTHER BATTLE WITH YOU...
...I'VE GOT TO CATCH UP TO THE OTHER HOMICIDAL PSYCHOPATH BEFORE THE SPIDER-TRACER I PLANTED ON HIM GETS OUT OF RANGE.
THWIP
I'LL DEAL WITH YOU LATER, RENEGADE...
DOUBTFUL, HERO...
...I'VE GOT A DIFFERENT AGENDA.
AND I'VE GOT AN ACE IN THE HOLE...

WAR JOURNAL ENTRY: STORM'S KEEPING MOST OF THE CIVILIANS *OFF* THE STREETS...
...BUT MY QUARRY'S *NOT* THE TYPE TO TAKE A SNOW DAY.
MICRO, *DOWNLOAD* THE *LOCATIONS* OF ALL KNOWN *ROXXON HOLDINGS* FROM YOUR MAINFRAME TO MY ONBOARD SYSTEMS.
ALREADY *DONE*, FRANK, FOR WHAT IT'S WORTH...
IN ONE FORM OR ANOTHER, ROXXON INDUSTRIES APPEARS TO BE CONNECTED TO *HALF* THE REAL ESTATE IN MANHATTAN.
IT'S GOING TO TAKE ME *ALL NIGHT* JUST TO SEPARATE THE LEGIT BUSINESSES FROM THE COVER OPERATIONS--
THEN WE'LL HAVE TO TRY A *SHORTCUT*...
SPEAKING OF SHORTCUTS...
STILL NO BUZZ FROM THE *SPIDER-TRACER* I PLANTED ON SABRETOOTH.
RRRUMBLE
WEBBING'S ALL BUT USELESS FOR TRAVELING IN THIS WEATHER...
...BUT, DESPITE ITS BAD PRESS, THE SUBWAY'S ALWAYS BEEN THE *FASTEST* WAY TO GET ANYWHERE IN THIS CITY--
SKREEEEE
ATTENTION--ALL SOUTHBOUND SERV- *SKWAWK* SUSPENDED...
IT'S GOT TO BE A CURSE.
PLUP
PLIP

CAN'T AFFORD THIS DELAY...
--DUE TO SCREECH FLOODING IN TH- SKRAKLE TUNNELS--
...I'VE GOT A LOT OF CEILING TO COVER.
SAFE TO ASSUME SABRE'S VENDETTA IS TAKING HIM DOWN TOWARD ROXXON, BUT--
HANG ON ...FINALLY-- A FAINT SIGNAL FROM MY TRACER.
HE WENT THISAWAY...
PLIP
WAR JOURNAL ENTRY: MIDTOWN TRAFFIC TOOK A TURN FOR THE WORSE...
...AND I'M STILL GETTING NOWHERE FAST.
BINGO.
TRACED A COMPUTER LINK FROM THAT BRONX ADDRESS YOU GAVE ME TO ROXXON'S RIVERFRONT CORPORATE HEADQUARTERS BUILDING ON THE LOWER WEST SIDE--
TARGET'S IVORY TOWER IS IN SIGHT, MICRO...
...AND THERE'S ONLY ONE LIGHT BURNING UP THE MIDNIGHT OIL.

FIELD EXPERIENCE HAS TAUGHT ME THAT THE *QUICKEST* WAY TO GET TO THE *BOTTOM* OF A *PROBLEM*--
--ESPECIALLY A *HEAVILY-ARMED* PROBLEM--
--IS TO GO STRAIGHT TO THE *TOP.*
REAL STRONG SIGNAL COMING FROM DIRECTLY *OVERHEAD.*
BEST I CAN FIGURE IS I'M DOWNTOWN SOMEWHERE UNDER THE *WEST SIDE*... PRETTY CLOSE TO THE HUDSON RIVER, IF THE *STENCH* IS ANY INDICATION.
ONLY ADVANTAGE TO COMMUTING THROUGH THE *SEWERS*...
...IS THAT THERE'S NOWHERE TO GO BUT *UP*...
AROOOOOO
...RIGHT INTO SABRETOOTH'S TRAP.

WAR JOURNAL ENTRY: *CONSTRUCTION SITE* NEXT DOOR GIVES ME *EASY ACCESS* TO ROXXON'S *EXECUTIVE SUITES.*
DIRECTIONAL MICROPHONE CONFIRMS THAT I'VE FOUND THEIR *NEST...*
YOUR BRONX LABORATORY'S BEEN *DESTROYED,* PHILLIP--
...AND *INFRA-RED BINOCULARS* CONFIRM THAT THE BUZZARDS ARE *UGLY* AS SIN.
--BUT WE'VE COME *TOO FAR* TO ABANDON THE PROJECT NOW THAT YOU'VE MADE THE *BREAKTHROUGH* WE'VE BEEN WORKING TOWARD.
I STILL HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO *REPEAT* MY SUCCESS, *BRANDON.*
AND IT'S ONLY A MATTER OF *TIME* UNTIL SPIDER-MAN OR THE PUNISHER TRACK EVERYTHING BACK TO US...
...INCLUDING THE *MURDERS.*
THE *SKELETONS* IN OUR *CLOSET* ARE--QUITE LITERALLY--*LOCKED AWAY,* BROTHER...
VERY INTERESTING.
...AND *ONLY* YOU AND I SHARE THE *COMBINATION* TO THAT PARTICULAR *VAULT.*
SABRETOOTH *DID* LURE ME UP HERE WITH MY SPIDER-TRACER.
TO FINALLY HEAR THE *TRUTH...*

WAR JOURNAL ENTRY: I'VE HEARD *ENOUGH*...
NOW GET BACK TO YOUR MICROSCOPE UNTIL YOU CAN *DUPLICATE* THE PROTOTYPE, DOCTOR CHAMBERS--
--WE'VE MADE *PROMISES* TO SOME VERY *TOUGH CUSTOMERS*.
BRANDON'S ALWAYS BEEN A *FOOL*...
...BUT HE CERTAINLY HAS A *WAY* WITH *NUMBERS*.
IF THIS LITTLE SCHEME *PAYS OFF* BEFORE ROXXON--
WHAT THE--?!
DON'T KNOW WHETHER TO *STICK AROUND* AND FIND OUT WHAT THE LAB RAT IS ACTUALLY *BREWING*...
...OR *FOLLOW* THE *SUIT* TO SEE HOW FAR THE *CORPORATION* ITSELF IS INVOLVED IN ALL THIS.
THE PUNISHER!
SKRAASH
BUDDA BUDDA

AWOOGA AWOOGA AWOOGA AWOOGA
POOM
THAT *TEARS* IT!
PUT HIM *DOWN*, CASTLE.
I *INTEND* TO SPIDER-MAN--
--LIKE THE ANIMAL HE IS.
GUARDS... BE HERE... ANY MINUTE...
LAST THING THIS PARTY NEEDS IS *MORE* BLOODTHIRSTY TRAINED KILLERS--!
THWIP
WHICH *REMINDS* ME...
...*WHERE'S* SABRETOOTH?
THE COMBINATION TO THE VAULT, "DOCTOR"...?
LEFT TO *M*... RIGHT TO *I*... ALTERNATING *T-C-H-E-L-L*...
NOW THE *LOCATION*...
TOO LATE, PUNISHER--
TZZT
THWIP
--THE GUARDS' *LASERS* CUT THROUGH MY WEBBING!
SKRAKT

TZZT
THEN WE CAN *DROP* THE SUBJECT.
FOR NOW.
ZTTZ
TZZT
ZTTZ
YEEAAA!
TZZT
UHFF...
WOK
WOK
URPH
WEB-BALLS ARE REAL *CUTE* AND ALL, SPIDER-MAN...
...BUT YOU CAN'T BEAT AND OLD-FASHIONED *CONCUSSION GRENADE* FOR *MAXIMUM PLAY* AGAINST *LASERS.*
FWHOOM
AND FOR THAT *PERSONAL* TOUCH...
UKK
BUDDA
I'D TAKE YOU DOWN ON THE *SPOT,* CASTLE...
...IF THERE WAS ANY CHANCE OF YOUR BULLETS *PENETRATING* THESE GOONS' *BODY-ARMOR.*
KLOK
UHNN...
RIGHT NOW I NEED YOU TO HELP SHUT THEIR BOSSES DOWN. BUT AFTER...!
GUN *STUNS* THEM LONG ENOUGH TO--
KLK
KLK
YOUR WEAPON'S *JAMMED,* VIGILANTE...
ZZTTZ

PLAN B --
-- CATCH...
WHAT--?
YEEARGH!
TZZT
NO...
THE BIG GUN... THE SMOKE-- I THOUGHT...
I'VE GOT TO FIND THE CHAMBERS TWINS BEFORE THEY KILL AGAIN TO REPRODUCE THE SERUM...
...WHATEVER IT IS.
THWIP
WUD
THERE'S NOTHING LEFT TO STOP US.
KRAK
LUCKY FOR YOU THAT GUARD SURVIVED THE LASER. NOBODY DIES, PUNISHER.
THAT'S NOT ALWAYS UP TO ME, HERO...
SPIDER-MAN SAVED MY LIFE... WITH WEB-LINE... WHEN PUNISHER WASN'T LOOKING... >HFF<...
HAVE TO... >HFF< ...REACH BRANDON...

HUGE METAL DOOR LOOKS LIKE A GOOD BET FOR THE VAULT.
THOK
TZZT
ZTTZ
BUDDA BUD
TZZT
BUDD
ZTTZ
WE JUST HAD TO FOLLOW THE PATH OF MOST RESISTANCE, HERO.
ARMORED DOG-SOLDIERS DON'T STAY DOWN LONG...
JUST DISARM THEM, CASTLE--
POK
POK
BUDDA
THE ENERGY-GRID SPANNING THE ATRIUM WILL DO THE REST.
FRZZT
FRZZT
CHAMBERS HAS CUT THIS FLOOR OFF FROM THE REST OF THE BUILDING.
THEN WE'RE ON THE RIGHT TRACK, SPIDER-MAN...
SHOSSS
SMOKE-SCREEN!
...BUT MY CURRENT ARTILLERY ISN'T GOING TO PUSH THOSE ARMORED CREEPS LONG ENOUGH TO GET INTO THIS VAULT.
THWIP
THWIP
BUDDA BUDDA
I'M FINISHING THE WEB-WALL--SHOULD BUY US A FEW MINUTES--
TZZZT
ZTTZ
TZZT
ZTTZ
ZTTZ
TZZZT
TZZT

THWIP
THWIP
THWIP
THWIP
THWIP
GET US INTO THAT VAULT FAST, CASTLE--I'M BOUND TO RUN OUT OF WEBBING...
BEEP BEEP BEEP BEEP
ZZZT
ZTTZ
BINGO. COMBINATION WORKS.
SNK
BIO LAB'S OPEN, SPIDER-MAN...
THWI--
...RIGHT WHEN I NEED IT MOST.
SHRAKT
BURN 'EM!
ZTTZ
ZTTZ
TZZT
AND THE HALL MONITORS ARE HOT ON OUR HEELS.
A MOMENT OF YOUR TIME, MR. CHAMBERS...?
HOLD YOUR FIRE--!
AND WATCH YOUR FINGERS ON THE WAY OUT. I'M CLOSING THE DOOR.
A SHOW-ROOM...?
DISPLAYING MADE-TO-ORDER HYBRID MUTATIONS!
"DESIGNER GENES"... PATENT PENDING.

HOW DEEP IS ROXXON BURIED IN ALL THIS, CHAMBERS?!
DEPENDS WHO YOU ASK...
THE GREEDY MONEY-MAN WHO'S GOING TO BE DEAD TWO SECONDS AFTER HE STOPS TALKING.
COMPANY'S BEEN BANKROLLING GENETIC RESEARCH PROGRAMS SINCE LONG BEFORE I STARTED WORKING MY WAY UP THE CORPORATE LADDER--
--BUT CONTROLLED D.N.A.-SPLICING STILL ELUDED THE BEST MINDS OF THE PRIVATE SECTOR...
...UNTIL THIS SERUM.
WITH MY WEB-SHOOTERS RE-LOADED, I CAN EASILY DISARM THE PUNISHER BEFORE HE HURTS CHAMBERS...
...BUT I HAVE SOME QUESTIONS OF MY OWN.
DNA
HOW DID YOUR PEOPLE OVERCOME THE GENE-BONDING BREAKDOWN ROADBLOCK...?
EVENTUALLY, I REACHED AN EXECUTIVE POSITION WITH ENOUGH AUTONOMY AND FUNDS TO LURE MY BROTHER AWAY FROM CANADA'S DEPARTMENT K.
BETWEEN HIS TOP-SECRET GOVERNMENT EXPERIENCE AND MY CORPORATE FACILITIES, WE FINALLY PERFECTED OUR CELL/MELD PROCESS...
...ENABLING US TO COMBINE GENETIC CHEMICAL INSTRUCTIONS FROM ANY NUMBER OF SEPARATE SPECIES--HUMAN OR OTHERWISE--INTO ONE CREATURE WITH SELECTED TRAITS.
THE POSSIBILITIES WERE ENDLESS--AND THE CORPORATION ALWAYS ENCOURAGED INDIVIDUAL INITIATIVE...
SO, BEFORE ROXXON COULD MARKET THE FORMULA TO THE MILITARY, MY BROTHER AND I DECIDED TO BRANCH OUT ON OUR OWN--
--AND WE FOUND SOME VERY INTERESTED UNDERGROUND BUYERS...WITH SOME VERY DEEP POCKETS.
NO MENTION OF THE INNOCENT BLOOD SHED FOR YOUR LITTLE SCIENCE EXPERIMENTS, PIG...?
BECAUSE BRANDON HAS NEVER HAD THE STOMACH FOR THE HARSH REALITIES OF SCIENTIFIC PROGRESS--
--THAT IS THE BURDEN OF TRUE GENIUS.
PHILLIP...?!
SNK
IS THAT CAGE DOOR SUPPOSED TO OPEN ALL BY ITSELF...?

SCRATCH THAT...
...I'M OBVIOUSLY JUST *SEEING THINGS.*
GROWWR
PHILLIP'S *CONTROLLING* THE VAULT SOMEHOW FROM HIS OFFICE--!
PHILLIP IS *SUPPOSED* TO BE ANOTHER BLOTCH ON THE SIDEWALK, SPIDER-MAN...
I'M *NOT* APOLOGIZING FOR SAVING A LIFE, PUNISHER.
I HAVE ALWAYS HAD FAR *MORE* CONTROL THAN YOU REALIZED, BRANDON...
...OVER *ALL* OF MY SIBLINGS.
GRRR
MITCHELL WAS MY FIRST SUCCESS... *LIMITED* AS HE IS.
WH-WHAT ARE YOU SAYING...?!
YOU TOLD ME THE CANCER *KILLED* MITCHELL MONTHS AGO...
ROWWRR
I SAID I DID THE *BEST* I COULD AFTER YOU BROUGHT HIM TO ME...
...AND, IN FACT, I *SAVED* OUR LITTLE BROTHER'S LIFE.
GENETIC RAW MATERIAL WAS READILY AVAILABLE FROM LABORATORY-BRED *RATS* ALREADY IMMUNE TO THE PARTICULAR STRAIN OF CANCER THAT RAVAGED MITCHELL...
...I ADDED *BEAR* AND *COYOTE* FOR RAW POWER AND SPEED, AND THREW IN A LITTLE *WOLF* MERELY FOR AESTHETIC VALUE.
UNFORTUNATELY, AT THAT *EARLY* STAGE OF MY RESEARCH, I WAS NOT YET ABLE TO ACCURATELY CALCULATE THE PRECISE DOSAGES THAT WOULD INSURE *HUMAN* DOMINANCE.

GRRR
YET, WITH THE SIMPLE EXPEDIENT OF REMOTE-CONTROLLED *ELECTRICAL IMPLANTS* IN HIS *PAIN* AND *PLEASURE* CENTERS...
...I WAS ABLE TO USE WHAT'S LEFT OF OUR BROTHER TO *GO* OUT INTO THE STREETS AND PROCURE THE LAST NECESSARY *ORGAN DONATIONS* FOR OUR PROJECT, AT LEAST
DINNER IS SERVED, FIDO.
AROO
SLSH
BUT I FIND MITCHELL STILL RESPONDS TO *PAIN* BEST...
YEEARGH!
...THEN AGAIN, IT'S A *FAMILY TRAIT*.
BUDDA
PUNISHER, *STOP*--THAT CREATURE'S JUST LASHING OUT IN *ANGUISH*!
AND I INTEND TO BE THE *REASON*, SPIDER-MAN--*NOT* THE TARGET.
MITCHELL... WAIT...
I'LL HANDLE THE WOLFMAN, PUNISHER...
...*YOU* FIND A WAY TO GET THE OTHER CHAMBERS *OUT* OF THIS VAULT.
GRAAR
THOSE TWO MONSTERS *DESERVE* EACH OTHER, SPIDER.
SNK
BUDDA BUDDA
I'M MAKING A *HOUSE-CALL* ON THE *DOCTOR*--
DON'T BLAME MITCHELL, BOYS...
...IT ALL COMES DOWN TO *BAD GENES*.
TOOM
SKRAK
--WITH A *TERMINAL* DIAGNOSIS!

YOU'RE NOT GOING ANYWHERE WITHOUT *ME*, PUNISH--
PLEASE... PHILLIP...
STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE, BRANDON, NOW THAT THE PROJECT'S BEEN INFILTRATED--
...N-NO...
--THE *FAMILY LEGACY* FALLS TO THE ELDEST.
THOK
AROWR
URK
RECOVERED FROM YOUR MEETING WITH THE WALL *QUICKER* THAN EXPECTED, FUZZ-FACE..
...SO I'LL HAVE TO INTRODUCE YOU TO THE *FLOOR.*
WAR JOURNAL ENTRY: *PLASTIQUE* CLEARS A PATH THROUGH THE VAULT'S ADJOINING OFFICES...
FSSS
WHAT THE--?!
...AND *GAS GRENADES* TAKE *MOST* OF THE ATRIUM GUARDS BY SURPRISE.
BUT SOME OF THESE ROXXON FLUNKIES ARE ACTUALLY SMART ENOUGH TO *HOLD THEIR BREATHS...*
...*THEIR* MISTAKE.
BUDDA-BUDDA
AKK
THE PUNISHER'S *COMING* FOR ME...
...BUT HE WILL BE FAR TOO *LATE.*
TEK
AIN'T *THAT* THE TRUTH, PHIL...

TEK
FSHOOOOSH
DATA'S FINISHED DOWNLOADING ONTO THESE *FLOPPY DISCS*, AND THE FILE ON THIS LITTLE VENTURE'S BEEN COMPLETELY *PURGED* FROM THE SYSTEM.
ESCAPE CHUTE'S IN PLACE.
DESTRUCT
DESTRUCT
DE
JUST ONE *LAST* DETAIL TO PROGRAM INTO MY REMOTE-CONTROL UNIT...
TEK
TEK
WAR JOURNAL ENTRY: REMAINS OF THE *CANNON FODDER*...
BUDDA
SKRAASH
...*SURRENDERS* GRACEFULLY.
DEVICE I ATTACHED TO THE VAULT'S COMPUTER SENT A *PULSE SIGNAL* BACK THROUGH THE SYSTEMS-LINK TO PHILLIP'S *TRANSMISSION ORIGIN*--
--AND ACCORDING TO MICRO-CHIP'S *PULSE-TRACER*, THE *DOCTOR'S OFFICE* IS RIGHT AROUND THIS CORNER...
REEP REEP
GRRR
A FEW WELL-PLACED KICKS EASILY CONVINCED THE COYOTE THAT *I'M* THE SOURCE OF HIS PAIN.
NOW I PLAY *ROAD RUNNER*...
...AND TRY TO *DISTRACT* HIM AWAY FROM HIS WOUNDED BROTHER AND *OUT* TO--
RAAWR
SKROOM

THWIP
GREEAR
I REALLY WISH I WASN'T SO GOOD AT THIS...
KWOK
CHASE IS OVER, GRIZZLY-- I LURED YOU OVER THE ATRIUM FOR A REASON...
...BUT I'M NOT ABOUT TO LET ANOTHER LIVING CREATURE DIE AFTER ALL THIS.
THWIP
M-MITCHELL...?
HIS ANIMAL SENSES RECOGNIZE THE DANGER OF THE POWER GRID, CHAMBERS -- AND, WITHOUT LEVERAGE, THE POOR THING'S GOT NO PLACE TO GO...
...BUT DOWN.
SNF SNF
SLSH
NO! GONNA KILL HIMSELF TRYING TO GET FREE!
NO...
...NOT WHILE HIS BIG BROTHER'S HERE TO TAKE CARE OF HIM.
DEFENSE
SYSTEM
SHUTDOWN
YOU SHUT DOWN THE POWER GRID-- AND MY FULL WEB-COCOON WILL KEEP MITCH FROM HURTING HIMSELF, CHAMBERS...
THWIP THWIP
...WHILE WE PAY A VISIT TO THE FAMILY DOCTOR.

WRRRKLK
WAR JOURNAL ENTRY--THE DOCTOR IS OBVIOUSLY *IN*...
WRRRKLK
...BUT HE'S NOT SEEING ANYONE *WITHOUT* AN APPOINTMENT.
BOTH RECEPTIONISTS ARE *BULLET-PROOF*...
BUDDA
KTNG
KTNG
KTNG
...AND A *THERMITE GRAPE* JUST STARTS THEM *CHATTERING*.
FOOM
BUDDA BUDDA
THREE GRENADES TOGETHER TAKES OUT *ONE* OF THE *DEFENSE-DROIDS*, AT LEAST...
FOOM
FOOM
FOOM
SKRNCH
...TOO BAD THOSE WERE MY *LAST* THREE GRENADES.
BZZZZ

THWIP
SHRK
PUNISHER, *DISCONNECT* THE GREEN *POWER CONVERTER* CABLE ON THE LEFT FROM THE BLUE *ACCESS WIRE* IN THE--
BZZZ
BZZZ
YEAH, *RIGHT...*
SHRK
FZZP PZZF
...*APPRECIATE* THE HELP, SPIDER-MAN.
CREDIT GOES TO THE MAN-YOU-WOULD-MAKE-SIDEWALK-PIZZA, CASTLE...
...*BRANDON* DIRECTED ME HERE IN TIME TO EXPOSE THE ROBOTS' ACHILLES HEEL--
--AND *SAVE* YOUR SORRY HIDE.
PZZF FZZP
PHILLIP'S GOT TO *PAY* FOR WHAT HE'S DONE TO MITCHELL...
THWIP
REMIND ME TO THANK THE LITTLE WEASEL AFTER HIS *FAMILY REUNION.*
I'M HOPING TO MAKE OUR ENTRANCE WITH A *BANG.*
I MAY BE OUT OF GRENADES... BUT *PLASTIQUE,* THAT'S *ANOTHER* STORY...
POOM
POOM
POOM

...SPIDER-STRENGTH CAN FINISH.
COMING *OUT* OF THERE...!
THIS PARTY NEEDED SOME *NEW BLOOD*...
...AND OL' PHIL AND I HAD A LOT TO *HASH OUT* TOGETHER FROM WAY BACK WHEN.
THE "DESIGNER GENES" RECORDS ARE CONFETTI, BUT BE REAL *CAREFUL* WITH THAT REMOTE-CONTROL UNIT--!
TEN MINUTES AGO, THE GOOD DOCTOR SET THE DETONATOR TO *TAKE OFF* THE WHOLE TOP OF THE BUILDIN' ONCE HE'D GOTTEN CLEAR.
SABRE'S *BOLTING!*
SHOULD HAVE LET ME *KILL* HIM WHEN I HAD THE CHANCE--!

GONE ALREADY...
...BUT WE'D ALL BE DEAD NOW IF YOU HAD MURDERED SABRETOOTH AT THE ZOO.
SO YOU DEFEND HIS RIGHT TO KILL A MAN THAT DESERVED TO DIE SIMPLY BECAUSE IT SAVED OUR--
NO ONE HAS THE RIGHT TO KILL, PUNISHER...
...BUT WE'RE NEVER GOING TO SETTLE THIS BETWEEN US, ARE WE?
ON THE CONTRARY...
...IT'S DONE.
EVEN IF YOUR WEB-BANDAGE HADN'T ALREADY STARTED TO DISSOLVE...
...I HAVE DEVICES THAT WOULD HAVE DETECTED YOUR LITTLE "TROJAN HORSE" SPIDER-TRACER BEFORE ENTERING MY HEADQUARTERS.
WOULD'VE BROUGHT ME CLOSE ENOUGH TO FIND YOU ON MY OWN, CASTLE, BUT IT'S A MOOT POINT...
...I'M TAKING YOU IN RIGHT NOW.
DOUBTFUL, SPIDER...

FREEZE!
WHOA, GUYS...!
S.W.A.T. TEAM'S MY CUE TO *FLY*, SPIDER-MAN--
NO...
CHUPPA CHUPPA CHUPPA
GOT YOUR *SIGNAL*, FRANK...
POUR ON THE SMOKE, MICRO!
MOVE!
... WAIT!
THE PUNISHER'S *ESCAPING* IN HIS OWN *CLOUD COVER*--!
ANYBODY WANT TO HEAR ABOUT WHAT *REALLY* HAPPENED HERE...?
KPOOM
KPOOM
KPOOM
KPOOM
KPOOM
SITUATION'S NOT ALL THAT *BLACK*-AND-*WHITE*...
WAR JOURNAL ENTRY:... AND IF WE'RE NOT CAREFUL, ONE OF US MIGHT ACTUALLY LEARN SOMETHING WE CAN'T AFFORD TO ABOUT THE NATURE OF *GREY*...
ROXXON
ROXXON

...A TRULY DANGEROUS LIABILITY IN A CITY OF SHADOWS.
IF ANYTHING, THE PUNISHER AND I ARE MORE COMMITTED THAN EVER TO OUR OPPOSING PHILOSOPHIES...
...AND A FINAL CONFRONTATION IS INEVITABLE.
EPILOGUE...
I'M SO SORRY ABOUT WHAT PHILLIP DID TO YOU, MITCHELL... TO OUR FAMILY.
...BUT IT'S THE BEST WE CAN DO FOR YOU RIGHT NOW.
THIS IS THE BEST SITUATION I COULD PROVIDE WITH THE ROXXON INSURANCE MONEY BEFORE MY TRIAL...
URRGH...?
YOUR BROTHER'S NOW PROVIDING INVALUABLE INFORMATION TO OUR CANCER RESEARCHERS, MR. CHAMBERS...
...HIS VERY EXISTENCE IS A VALUED TREASURE TO SOME.
I'LL NEVER KNOW IF I'M DOING THE RIGHT THING, MITCHELL...
...BUT I CAN BELIEVE I AM.
END.

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ANTI-HERO — the vengeance-driven **Punisher**
VILLAIN — the bloodthirsty **Sabretooth**

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MAXIMUM CARNAGE

A GUIDE TO THE SPIDEY/VENOM/CARNAGE CROSSOVER

— Lia M. Pelosi

Here it is! Your comprehensive, clear, and complete guide to "Maximum Carnage," the epic 14 part crossover that, beginning in March and continuing for three months, will take Spider-Man to the limits of his endurance and his sanity. He will cross paths with his most deadly foes, Venom and Carnage.

These encounters will turn Spidey's world upside down as heroes and villains form powerful and deadly assault teams, and find themselves having to make difficult choices between good and evil! Plus the mystery of Peter Parker's parents will take a new twist. The action begins and ends in the *brand new* ongoing quarterly Spider-Man title — **SPIDER-MAN UNLIMITED!**

Read it! Memorize it! Don't miss any of the excitement!

(For the story behind the making of "Maximum Carnage," check out **MARVEL PREVIEW '93**, now on sale.)

AVAILABLE IN MARCH:

Part One:
SPIDER MAN UNLIMITED #1 (DeFalco/Lim/Sanders III) Cletus Kassady escapes, Spidey vs. Doppleganger, and the birth of *Shriek*.

AVAILABLE IN APRIL:

Part Two:
WEB OF SPIDER-MAN #101
(Kavanagh/Saviuk)
Enter Venom, Cloak and Dagger. Doppelganger and Shriek join Carnage. Death strikes!

Part Three:
AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #378
(Michelinie/Bagley/Emberlin)
Venom unleashed against Carnage and his psychotic allies. War creates strange bedfellows.

Part Four:
SPIDER-MAN #35 (Michelinie/Lyle)
Demogoblin joins Carnage and his allies, while Black Cat joins the Spider-Man team. But who will Venom side with?

Part Five:
SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #201
(DeMatteis/S. Buscema)
Morbius joins the fun, Spider-Man makes a life-or-death decision, and Shriek uses her powers to gather more allies for Carnage's team, including *Carrion*.

AVAILABLE IN MAY:

Part Six:
WEB OF SPIDER-MAN #102
(Kavanagh/Saviuk)
Spidey chooses sides as Carnage & Co. create more mayhem and destruction.

Part Seven:
AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #379
(Michelinie/Bagley/Emberlin)
Break-in at Four Freedoms Plaza, while Firestar and Deathlok join the good guys to try to stop the symbiotes.

Part Eight:
SPIDER-MAN #36 (DeMatteis/Lyle)
Iron Fist thrown his lot with Spider-Man and friends, and many of Carnage's secrets are revealed.

Part Nine:
SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #202
(DeMatteis/S. Buscema)
Venom, out of control, falls victim to Carnage's treachery. Spider-Man is driven to the edge. . .

Part Ten:
WEB OF SPIDER-MAN #103
(Kavanagh/Saviuk)
Nightwatch joins the battle against Carnage, and Spider-Man needs help — from Captain America!

Part Eleven:
AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #380
(Michelinie/Bagley/Emberlin)
Cap, Spidey and their allies face Carnage's minions, with New York in flames

Part Twelve:
SPIDER-MAN #37 (Kavanagh/Lyle)
In the midst of the devastation, a turning point for Cloak's sanity, and Venom endures horrible torture at Carnage's hands.

Part Thirteen:
SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #203
(DeMatteis/S. Buscema)
Spider Man vs. Venom vs. Carnage — to the death.

Part Fourteen:
SPIDER-MAN UNLIMITED #2
(DeFalco/Lim/Sanders III)
The climactic final battle, and the fate of Carnage.

Hot Sheet

Big things are happening — really **BIG!** Events that know no limits! Happenings that only the Gods could conceive! You could say that March is a heavy hitting month of epic proportions! The superlatives are endless, so let's turn up the heat!

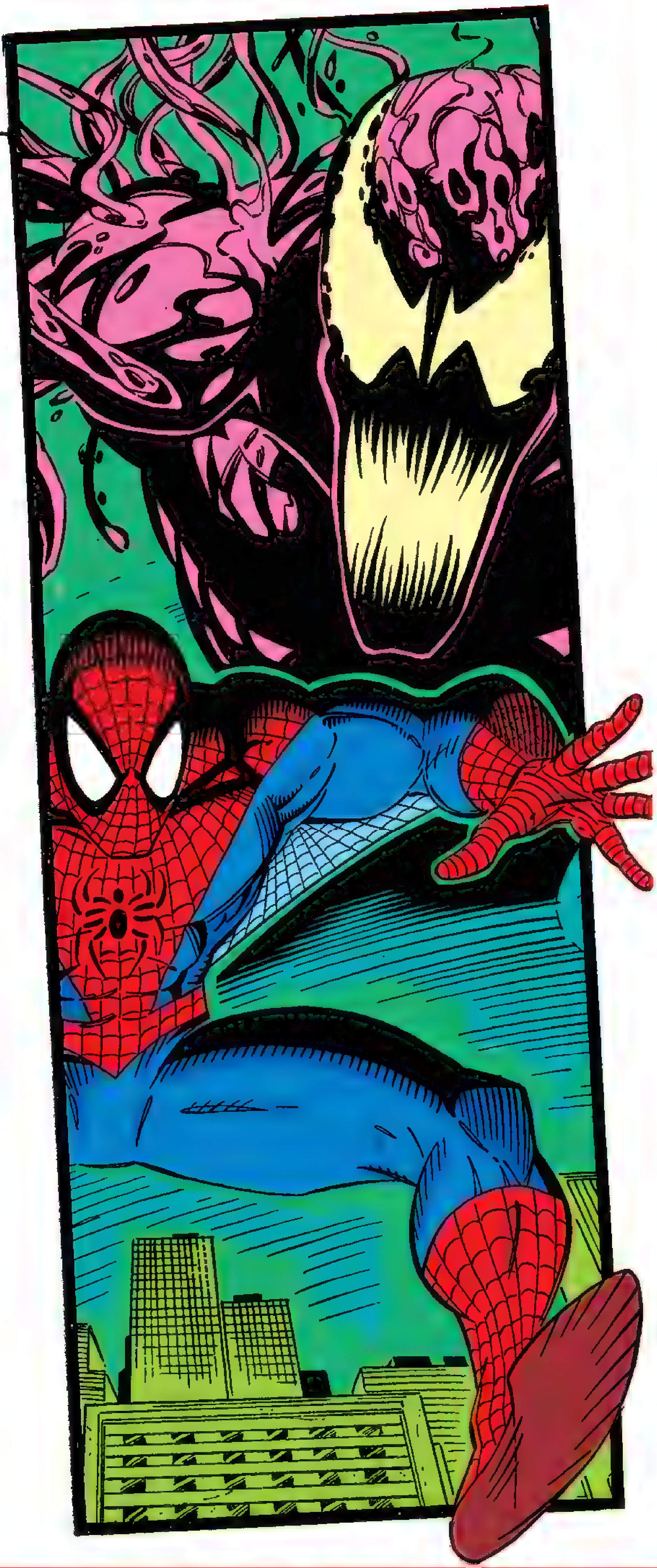
A DEBUT WROUGHT WITH CARNAGE

In March, everybody's favorite web slinger has his world shattered when he becomes entangled in the excitement of a titanic three-way battle co-starring Venom and Carnage, beginning in the all-new super-size quarterly series, **SPIDER-MAN UNLIMITED.** For some time now, Spider-Man Group Editor Danny Fingeroth has been trying to cajole writer Tom **(THOR)** DeFalco and artist Ron **(INFINITY WAR)** Lim into working on a Spidey title. However, with the already voluminous amount of great work these two put out each month, there is little time in either's schedule to add another monthly book. Thus the creation of a 64-page, four times a year series which will feature a lead story by DeFalco and Lim and additional tales by other popular writers and artists.

As if the debut of such a deluxe series wasn't enough, Fingeroth — along with the entire **SPIDER-MAN** line creative team (joined by fan-favorite artist Tom [*Robin*] Lyle) — conceived an event so awesome it will take the other three Spidey titles and fourteen parts to tell it. The entire saga begins in **SPIDER-MAN UNLIMITED #1** and is called "Maximum Carnage." As the name implies, all heck breaks loose when Spider-Man is forced into the middle of a life and death struggle between Venom and Carnage.

Advance word of the titanic storyline has the comic industry frothing with excitement. "This is the crossover series all of Marvel fandom has been waiting for!" exclaimed Gary Colabuono, owner of *Moondog's Comics* of Illinois. "A full-blown, knock-down conflagration featuring Spidey vs. Venom vs. Carnage!. . .[I] confidently predict that this crossover series is destined to be a hot fan favorite long remembered in the annals of Mighty Marvel."

When talk of the fourteen part story first began, David Torgerson of the *Westfield Comics* subscription service and retail chain noted, "Venom and Carnage are as popular as they come. This crossover is sure to make Spider-Man fans foam at the mouth. The market has not been oversaturated with Carnage appearances, which should make this event even more popular. Fans want more Carnage, and they're sure to get plenty here."



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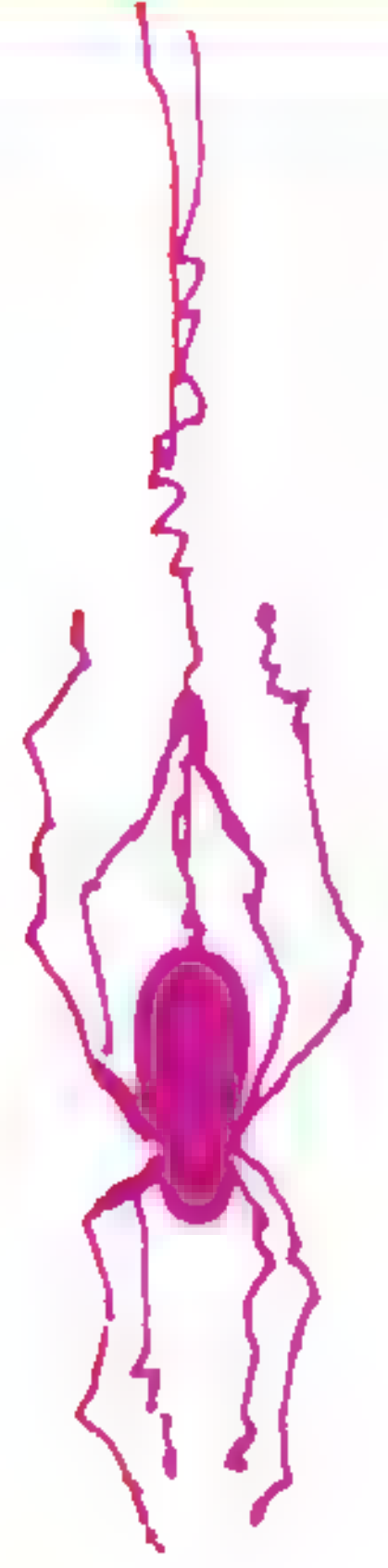
30 YEARS 1963-1993
Tom Lyle & M. KRAIGER

MARVEL AGE #123 FLIPBOOK BACK COVER BY TOM LYLE & MICHAEL KRAIGER



SPIDER MAN

The mother of all crossovers

He's been around for thirty years now, is an adult and married. For most people that indicates it's time to settle, lay down some roots and perhaps start a family.

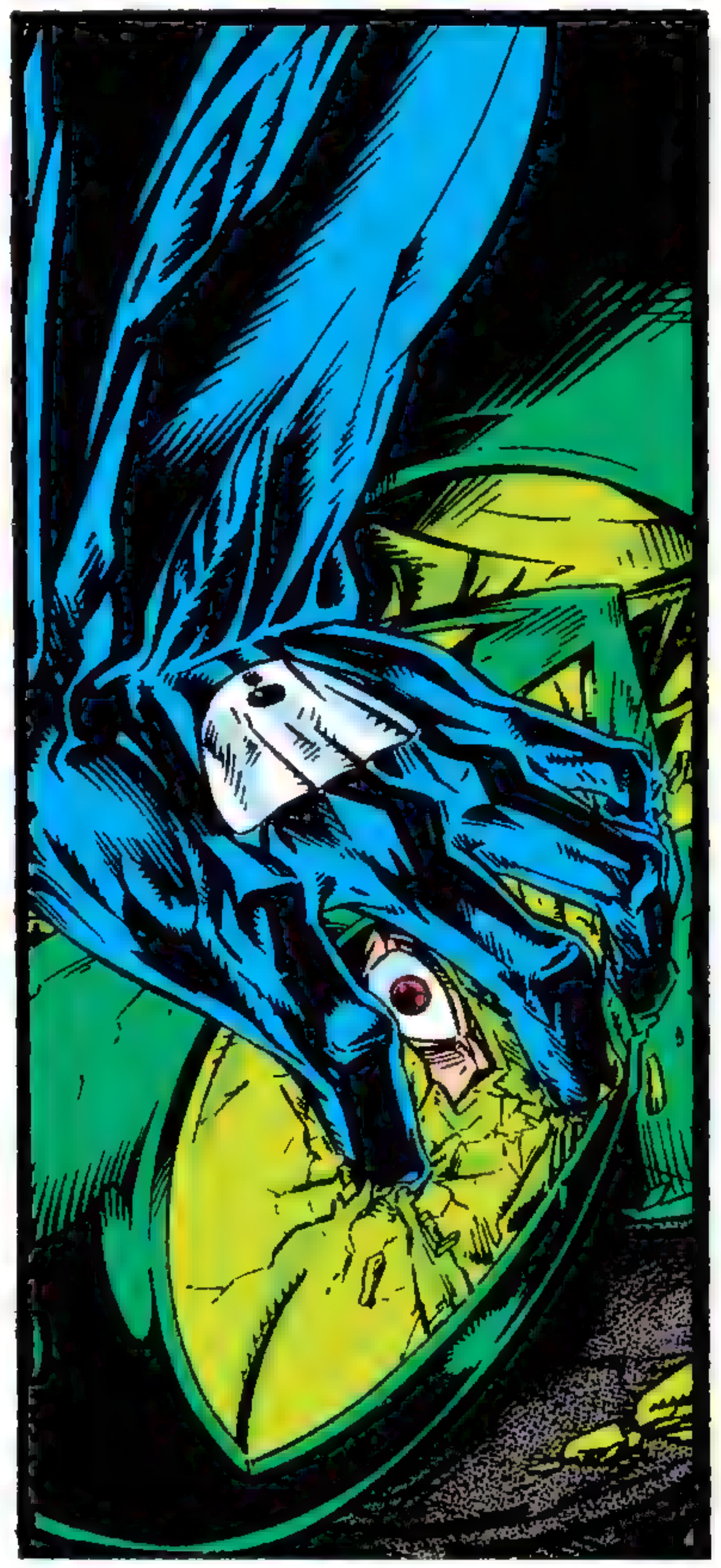
But that's for most people. When you're Peter Parker, the Amazing Spider-Man, settling down is the *last* thing on your mind!

"**AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #375** marks the 30th anniversary of **AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #1,**" said Danny Fingeroth, group editor of the Spider-line and chief keeper of the wall crawler's torch. "And since **SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN** and **WEB OF SPIDER-MAN** both reach significant milecant milestones this year, I decided it was time to do something extra special with Spidey."

That something is a *major* crossover — a 14-part extravaganza featuring some of the greatest Spider-Man villains ever. Naturally, such a crossover will move through all the existing Spider-Man books — but this one is so big, it required something more — something new.

"For years I've been dying to get Tom DeFalco to do some new Spidey writing," Editor Fingeroth revealed, "but his schedule is so busy, he just never had the time.

"Now we're launching a new title — the **SPIDER-MAN UNLIMITED,** and that allows me to use Tom. The book's quarterly schedule gives us the advantage of time — three months between issues — and that extra time lets people like Tom fit things in." Fingeroth smiled. "It also allowed me to get a very special penciler — another busy guy who I've been after for a while — Ron Lim. I'm telling you, these two guys are *dynamite* together!"



Of course, as this is a quarterly, there'll be more than just a single Spider-Man story in each issue. "Yes," agreed Fingeroth. "We will have extra things in the quarterlies. Again, because we have the luxury of more time, we'll be able to get some nifty back-up features starring other characters from the Spidey universe." He grinned. "I can't tell you too much about them yet, but we have some really topnotch creators waiting to work on them" And **SPIDER-MAN UNLIMITED** will be published using a special coated paper stock, similar to that was used for **MARVEL FANFARE,** giving it a new, deluxe look.

In the first issue of **SPIDER-MAN UNLIMITED,** the new series will kick off with the beginning of a major crossover. What is the crossover all about? Who's doing it — and how is it going to be new and different?

Editor Fingeroth unveiled some of the answers: "Back in **AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #363,**" he reminded, "the Carnage suit was destroyed and Kletus Casady, the man inside, was arrested and sent to jail. Casady, naturally, didn't like *that* at all! He's become addicted to the power the Carnage suit represented — and he wants it back! He's focused completely on that, and he has determined that the only way to get the Carnage suit back is to go after Venom! After all, Venom's suit generated the original Carnage suit, and maybe Casady can get it to do it again, or, failing that, perhaps he can just steal the Venom suit!"

"The whole idea is crazy, but Casady *is*, after all, a complete psychotic," Fingeroth laughed. "Of course, even *he* realizes that he can't go after Venom emptyhanded — he needs *some* kind of help. So he has an *artificial* Carnage suit built. Using the new suit, he begins to stalk Venom, and, being Carnage, leaves a broad path of death and destruction behind him. A path that leads Spidey right to him."

> "Of course, when Spidey and his crew meet Venom and *his* crew. . . you get the picture!"

The action will then pass through all the Spider titles, where many other characters will guest star: "Basically," Fingeroth revealed, "in the course of the crossover, lots of characters get involved, characters who break down into three groups." Fingeroth ticked them off on his fingers: "One group is composed of *super*-psycho villains, guys like Carnage — the *really* crazy guys.

"Arrayed against them are a team of the *really* good guys — heroes like Spider-Man, Captain America, Daredevil — people who believe that great power brings great responsibility — guys who think like Spider-Man — they just want to put the bad guys in jail!"

And what about the third group? Fingeroth shrugged. "I guess you'd call them the 'middle guys.' They're anti-heroes. These are the guy's who are prepared to kill in the line of duty — like Cardiac, Solo, Venom and Morbius."

"In the course of the action, all kinds of alliances are made between the various groups, alliances that juggle and change as the situations change." Fingeroth grinned. "And, of course, many of those alliances are *broken* — suddenly, and without warning."

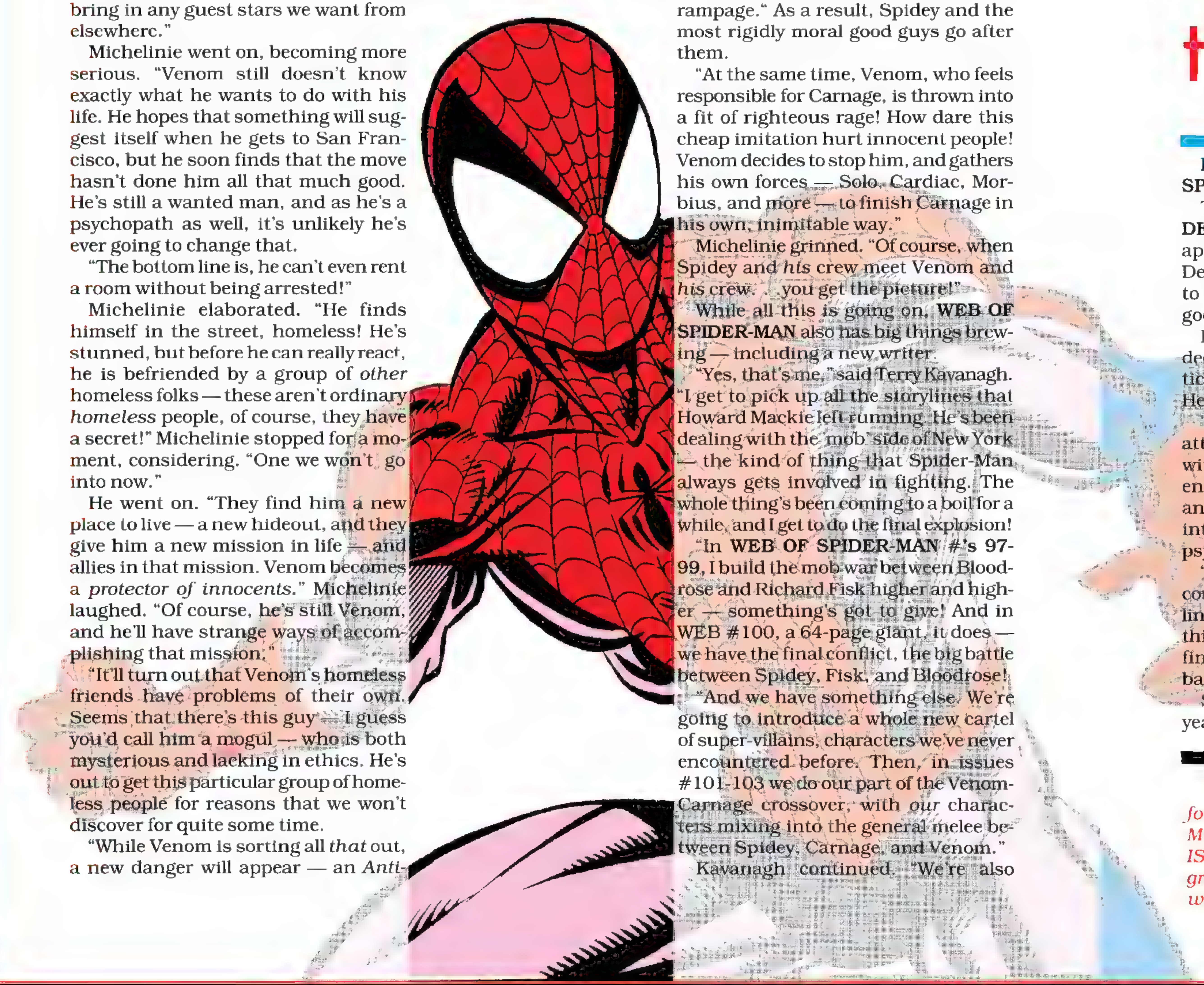
Fingeroth continued: "Naturally, with all these combinations, there's a lot of interaction — and *lots* of fights. And not just between, say, Spider-Man and the member of Carnage's group. It's not that simple. After all, it's Spidey — he's got to stop the villains — put them in jail. There are going to be times when he literally has to confront one of the *anti-heroes* to prevent him from killing one of the villains outright."

Concurrently, Marvel will be launching *another* brand new limited series — **VENOM!** David Michelinie, writer of **AMAZING SPIDER-MAN,** will scribe these new adventures. How will Venom and Spidey resolve their long-standing hatred? The answer, Fingeroth revealed, is that they do — and they don't. "It's a complex process that spills over violently into the **VENOM** limited series," he added.

Venom wants to start a new life for himself, Michelinie said. "We're going to move Venom to San Francisco. After all, that was Eddie Brock's home town, and it's far enough away from New York that maybe he can avoid Spider-Man."

"It *would* be unbelievable if they both lived in the same town and didn't fight one another," he added wryly.

This gives us new, unusual settings — somewhere different than New York and Los Angeles, where so many stories take place. And, of course, we can still bring in any guest stars we want from elsewhere."



Michelinie went on, becoming more serious. "Venom still doesn't know exactly what he wants to do with his life. He hopes that something will suggest itself when he gets to San Francisco, but he soon finds that the move hasn't done him all that much good. He's still a wanted man, and as he's a psychopath as well, it's unlikely he's ever going to change that.

"The bottom line is, he can't even rent a room without being arrested!"

Michelinie elaborated. "He finds himself in the street, homeless! He's stunned, but before he can really react, he is befriended by a group of *other* homeless folks — these aren't ordinary *homeless* people, of course, they have a secret!" Michelinie stopped for a moment, considering. "One we won't go into now."

He went on. "They find him a new place to live — a new hideout, and they give him a new mission in life — and allies in that mission. Venom becomes a *protector of innocents.*" Michelinie laughed. "Of course, he's still Venom, and he'll have strange ways of accomplishing that mission."

"It'll turn out that Venom's homeless friends have problems of their own. Seems that there's this guy — I guess you'd call him a mogul — who is both mysterious and lacking in ethics. He's out to get this particular group of homeless people for reasons that we won't discover for quite some time.

"While Venom is sorting all *that* out, a new danger will appear — an *Anti-*Venom Squad," he continued.

"This group was formed by the father of a guard Venom killed back at the Vault. The old man doesn't believe in 'forgive and forget,' and, having once been in Special Forces, he is able to call on a couple of buddies to help him find and destroy the thing that killed his son.

"They have their own special, super-scientific weapons, and, as we know, Venom has some problems with fire and sonics. . ."

Michelinie added, "This all lets me explore Venom's reactions — after all, now he's being hunted in the same way he used to hunt Spider-Man. How will he relate to that? How will it affect him?" And though Venom may be trying to start a new life for himself, Spider-Man will decide he can't risk Brock being on the loose, and will pursue him to the West Coast.

How will Michelinie handle the rest of the Venom battle in the Spider-Man crossover? "In **AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #'s 378-380,** Carnage gets his artificial suit and leads a group of other super-psychos on a rampage." As a result, Spidey and the most rigidly moral good guys go after them.

"At the same time, Venom, who feels responsible for Carnage, is thrown into a fit of righteous rage! How dare this cheap imitation hurt innocent people! Venom decides to stop him, and gathers his own forces — Solo, Cardiac, Morbius, and more — to finish Carnage in his own, inimitable way."

Michelinie grinned. "Of course, when Spidey and *his* crew meet Venom and *his* crew. . .you get the picture!"

While all this is going on, **WEB OF SPIDER-MAN** also has big things brewing — including a new writer.

"Yes, that's me," said Terry Kavanagh. "I get to pick up all the storylines that Howard Mackie left running. He's been dealing with the 'mob' side of New York — the kind of thing that Spider-Man always gets involved in fighting. The whole thing's been coming to a boil for a while, and I get to do the final explosion!

"In **WEB OF SPIDER-MAN #'s 97-99,** I build the mob war between Bloodrose and Richard Fisk higher and higher — something's got to give! And in WEB #100, a 64-page giant, it does — we have the final conflict, the big battle between Spidey, Fisk, and Bloodrose!

"And we have something else. We're going to introduce a whole new cartel of super-villains, characters we've never encountered before. Then, in issues #101-103 we do our part of the Venom-Carnage crossover, with *our* characters mixing into the general melee between Spidey, Carnage, and Venom."

Kavanagh continued. "We're also going to introduce a totally new super hero in #100, someone who we'll build up an introduction to in issues #98 and #99. Afterwards, we get deeper into our new storylines — we'll have a completely new definition of Bloodrose. He'll become the 'Punisher' of the Spider-Man books, someone who goes out there and kills the bad guys! Fisk will get a whole new look as well."

"He doesn't want to kill them or chop them apart."

Kavanagh nodded. "It'll be a whole new **WEB OF SPIDER-MAN,** with a lot of surprises!"

The crossover continues in **SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN,** but with a different slant: "The thing that appealed most to me in this crossover," said J.M. DeMatteis, writer of **SPECTACULAR,** "was the chance to contrast the personalities and characters of the good, heroic guys, and their psycho counterparts."

Expanding on this, DeMatteis said, "Spidey is a decent sort of guy, a true hero, one who fights for justice. He just wants to get the bad buys off the streets. He doesn't want to kill them or chop them apart.

"In this crossover, we get a chance to contrast *that* attitude, the true, pure palladin aspect of heroism with the darker 'heroes,' guys like Solo, who think the ends justify the means. I don't really believe in that, and my contribution to this crossover will be a look into the depths of these characters, exploring their psyches in the midst of this huge melee.

"It should be a lot of fun," he said enthusiastically. "Of course, this will all come after I finish my current story line. And I've got to tell you, it's the culmination of everything I've been doing since I started writing Spidey. The finale — personal, physical, and psychological — of the battle between Spidey and Green Goblin."

So for Spider-Man, fresh from his hectic anniversary year, there's no rest on the horizon.

Doug Murray is a freelance writer who has written for all the major companies. He created THE NAM for Marvel, and has also written THE MERC, THE PUNISHER, THE WAR, and the HEARTS AND MINDS graphic novel. He currently resides in Florida and is working on a variety of new books and projects.

THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN
Writer: David Michelinie
Penciler: Mark Bagley
Inker: Randy Emberlin
Editor: Danny Fingeroth
Format: Standard
Cover Price: $1.25
Frequency: Monthly
Pages: 32

WEB OF SPIDER-MAN
Writer: Terry Kavanagh
Penciler: Alex Saviuk
Inker: various
Editor: Rob Tokar
Format: Standard
Cover Price: $1.25
Frequency: Monthly
Pages: 32

THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN
Writer: J.M. DeMatteis
Penciler: Sal Buscema
Inker: Sal Buscema
Editor: Rob Tokar
Format: Standard
Cover Price: $1.25
Frequency: Monthly
Pages: 32

SPIDER-MAN
Writer: Steve Grant/David Michelinie
Penciler: Bob McLeod/Tom Lyle
Inker: Bob McLeod
Editor: Danny Fingeroth
Format: Offset
Cover Price: $2.00
Frequency: Monthly
Pages: 32

SPIDER-MAN UNLIMITED
Writer: incl. Tom DeFalco
Penciler: incl. Ron Lim
Inker: incl. James Sanders III
Editor: Danny Fingeroth
On Sale: March
Format: Glossy
Cover Price: $3.95
Frequency: Quarterly
Pages: 64

VENOM
Writer: David Michelinie
Penciler: Mark Bagley
Inker: Sam Delarosa
Editor: Danny Fingeroth
Format: Glossy
Cover Price: $2.50
Frequency: Monthly
Six-issue limited series
Pages: 32

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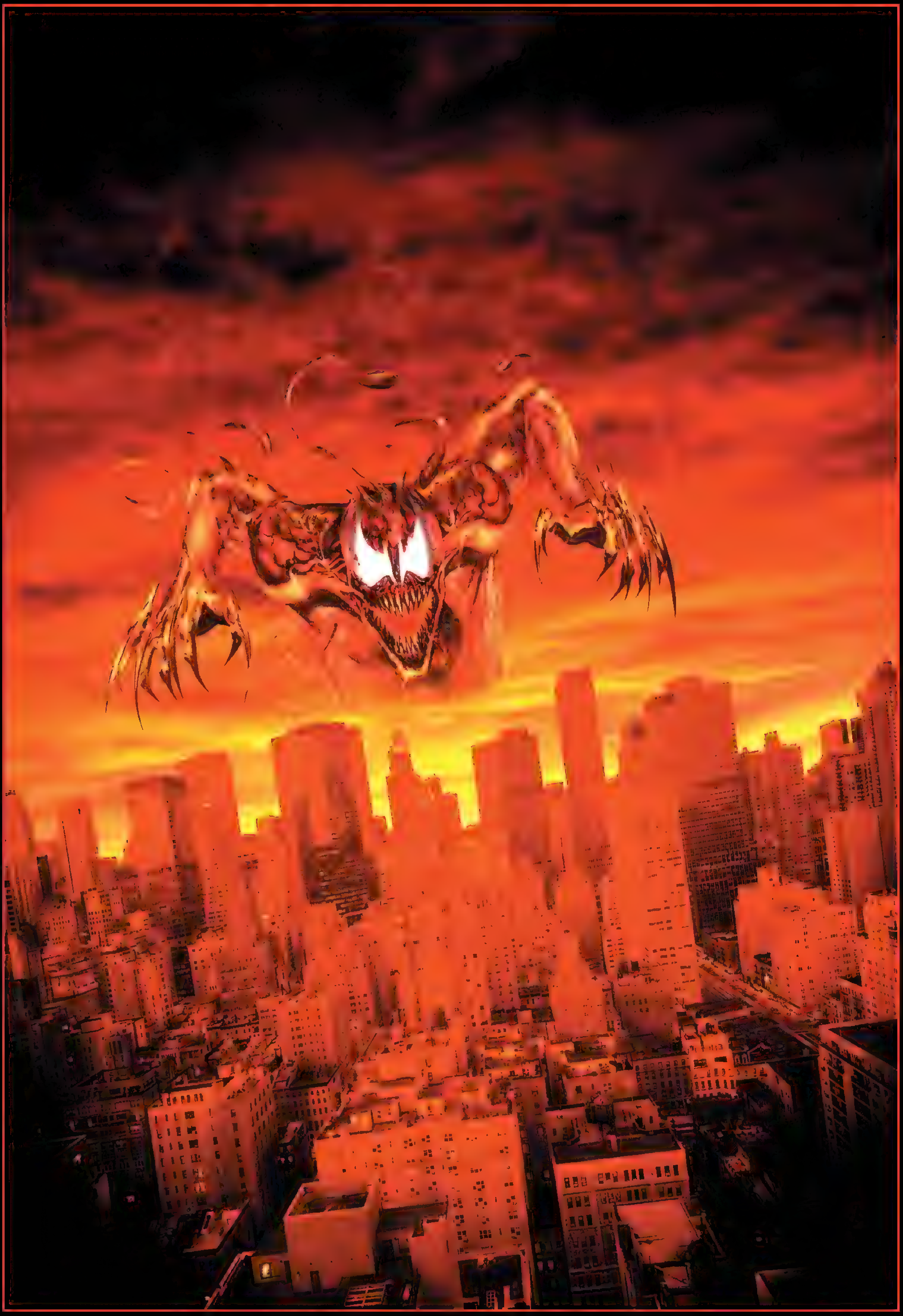
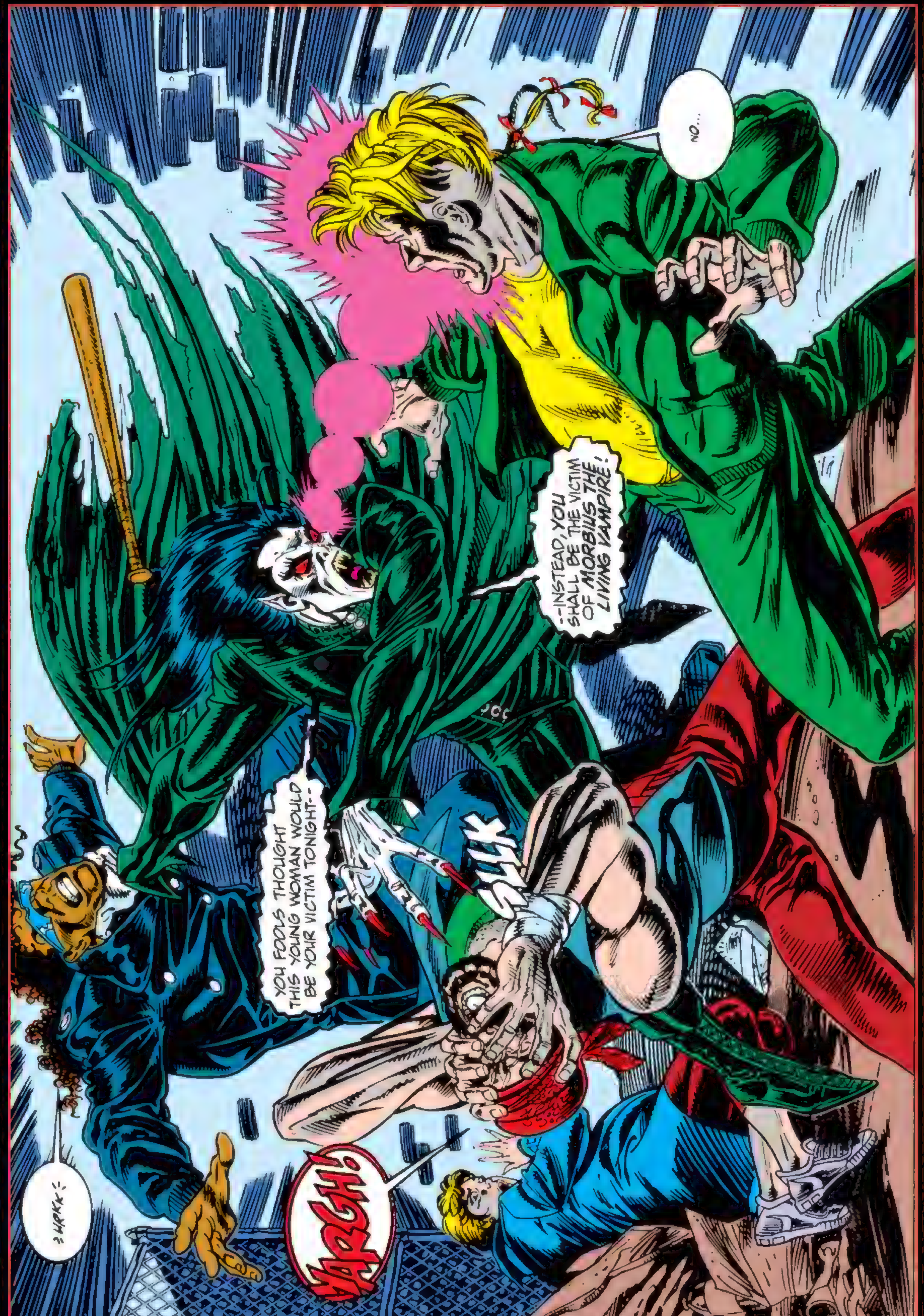
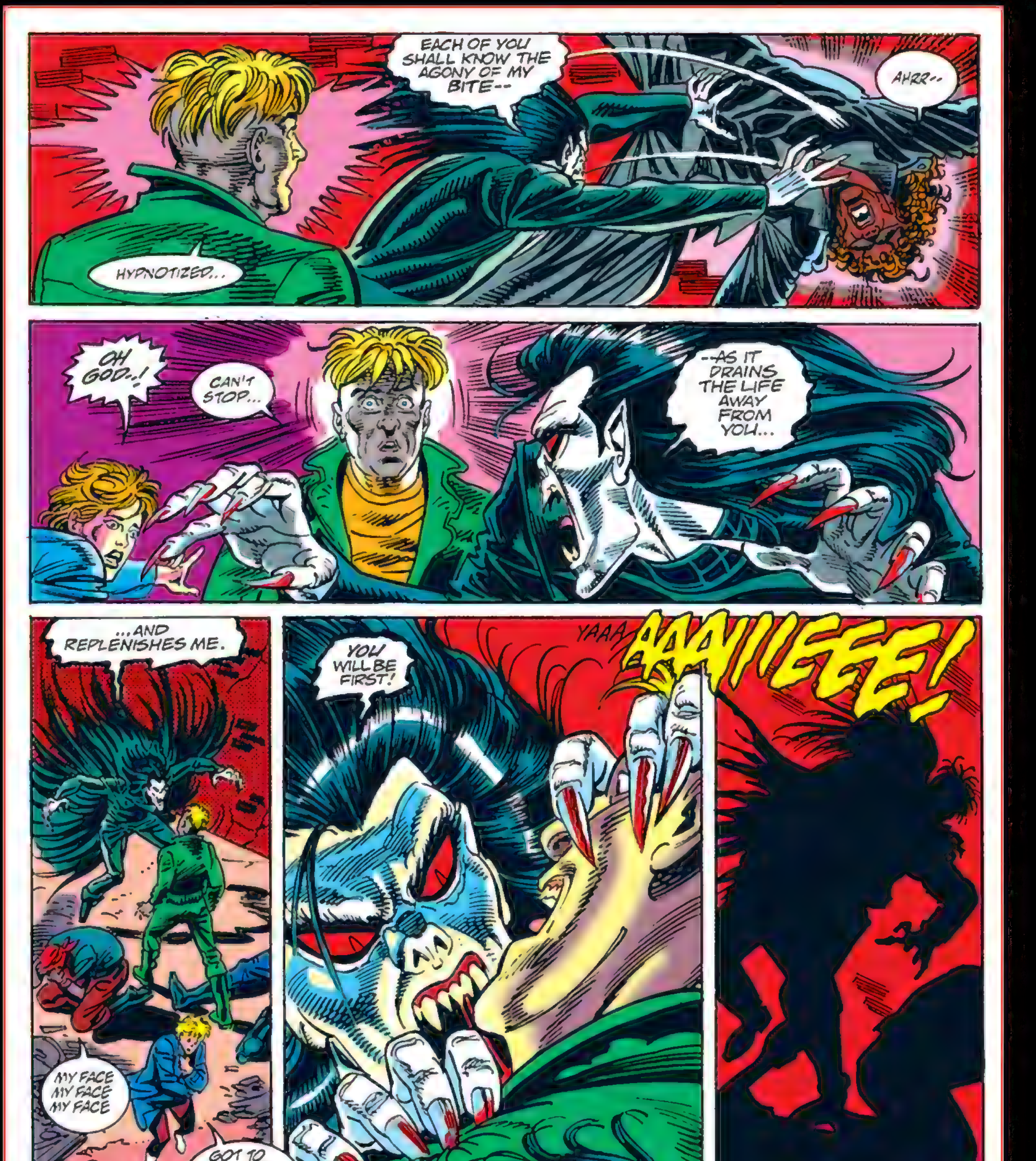
SPIDER-MAN: MAXIMUM CARNAGE TPB 1ST-PRINTING (1994)
COVER ART BY RON LIM, RANDY EMBERLIN & RICHARD BRUNING

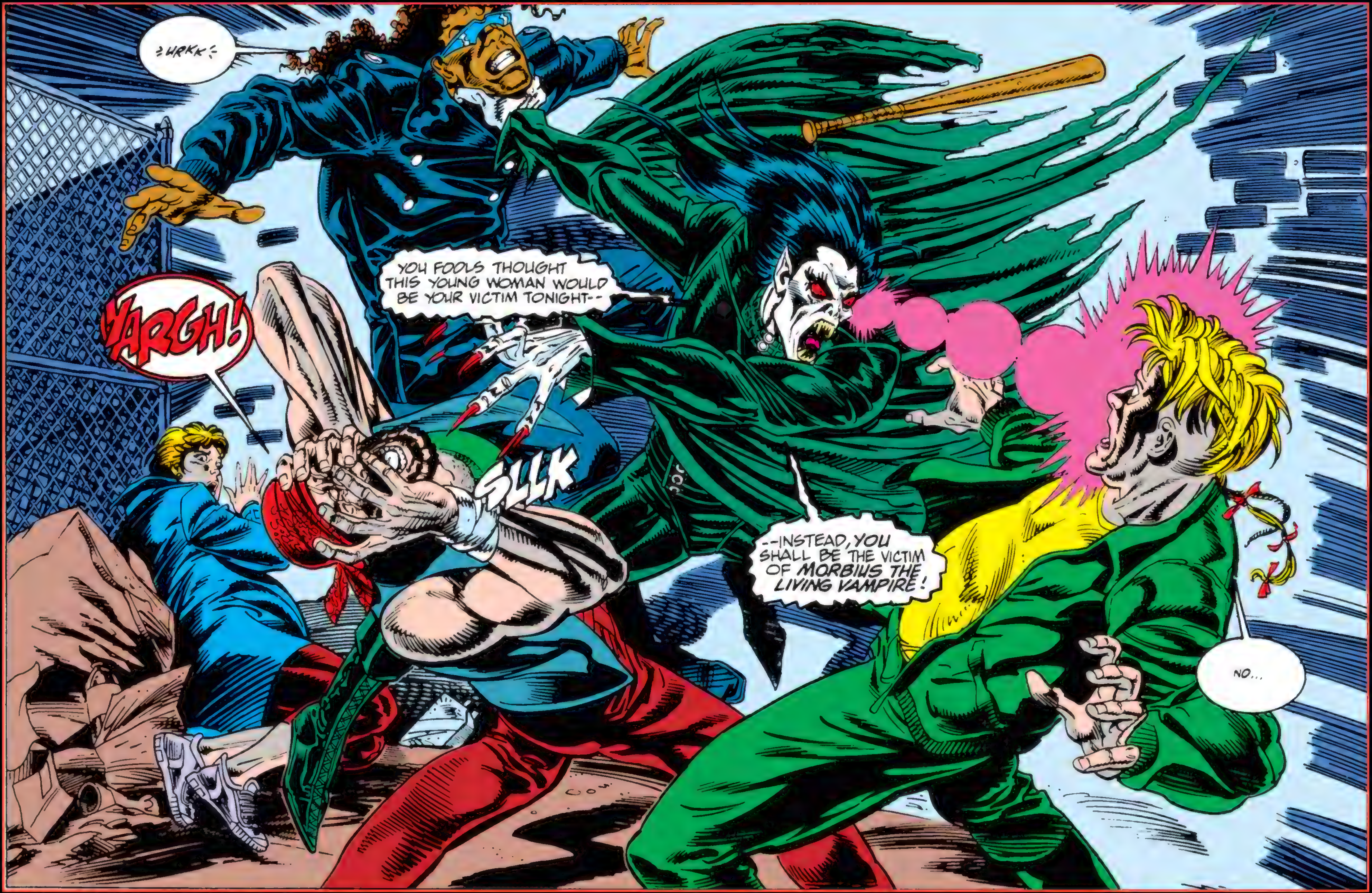


SPIDER-MAN: MAXIMUM CARNAGE TPB 2ND-PRINTING (2004) COVER ART


NO...
-INSTEAD, YOU SHALL BE THE VICTIM OF *MORBIUS THE LIVING VAMPIRE!*
YOU FOOLS THOUGHT THIS YOUNG WOMAN WOULD BE YOUR VICTIM TONIGHT--
SLIK
YAARGH!
HRKK--!

WHEN *WEB OF SPIDER-MAN #102* WAS COLLECTED IN THE *SPIDER-MAN: MAXIMUM CARNAGE TPB*, PAGES 2-4 WERE SHRUNK TO TWO PAGES AND MORBIUS' DIALOGUE WAS ALTERED.


EACH OF YOU SHALL KNOW THE AGONY OF MY BITE--
AHRR--
HYPNOTIZED...
OH GOD--!
CAN'T STOP...
--AS IT DRAINS THE LIFE AWAY FROM YOU...
...AND REPLENISHES ME.
YOU WILL BE FIRST!
YAAAAAAIIIEEE!
MY FACE MY FACE MY FACE
GOT TO ESCAPE THIS NIGHTMARE...
CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP
UHNN--
WHO DARES INTERRUPT--?!


URKK
YARGH!
YOU FOOLS THOUGHT THIS YOUNG WOMAN WOULD BE YOUR VICTIM TONIGHT--
SLLK
--INSTEAD, YOU SHALL BE THE VICTIM OF MORBIUS THE LIVING VAMPIRE!
NO...

DARKNESS, LIGHT...AND FREE FOOD

An Introduction of Sorts by J.M. DeMatteis

To tell you the truth, I didn't want to do it. When Group Editor Danny Fingeroth first proposed the idea that would mushroom into "Maximum Carnage," I didn't even want to hear about it. Venom and Carnage may have wowed that amorphous entity called The Comic Book Audience, but they'd left me flat. I explained to Danny that I liked my villains a little more layered—some moral ambiguity, some shades of grey—and that, frankly, I'd had my fill of the psychos and mass murderers running through the pages of half the comic books on the stands. (And those—Heaven help us—were the heroes!) Peter Parker, on the other hand, was, is, and always will be a kind, decent, compassionate, caring human being—something of a rarity in the comic book climate of the 90's. "But," said Danny, after I'd detailed my objections, "that's exactly the point."

Okay, so he had my attention.

Danny went on to tell me that he envisioned a multi-part saga, weaving through all the Spider-titles, that would contrast the psycho-killers against the good guys...and take a firm stand, he assured me, on the side of the men and women in the white hats.

Okay, so now I was getting interested.

Which is how I found myself, some weeks later, locked away in a conference room in a New York hotel with a group that included Danny, editors Eric Fein and Rob Tokar, then-assistant editor Mike Lackey, my fellow Spider-writers David Michilinie, Terry Kavanagh, and Tom DeFalco...as well as artists Mark Bagley, Sal Buscema, and new kid on the block Tom Lyle. We put in two exhausting and exhilarating eight-hour days laying the groundwork for our fourteen-part (!) crossover: laughing, arguing, ranting like lunatics, throwing endless ideas—some brilliant, some awful, some just plain weird—across the table. We compiled our list of Very Bad Guys...and Very Good Guys...and the Grey Men who walked between both worlds. We struggled to find our story's thematic threads. Discussed the essential differences in attitude and philosophy that separated our variegated cast.

And, best of all, we ate lots of free food!

Well, maybe not best of all. The real highlight of those two days was the chemistry among the group. We were as diverse a bunch—though not quite as extreme—as the heroes and villains we were writing about, but there wasn't an unsightly ego to be found. No moody outbursts. No claiming the best scenes for any particular book or creative team.

It was the kind of group energy exchange that we freelancers—who spend our working hours alone, staring at blank art pages and grey computer screens—rarely get to take part in. And it was fun.

When our two-day conference was over, we all thought we had a powerful story that looked the Darkness square in the eyes, and came out on the side of Light.

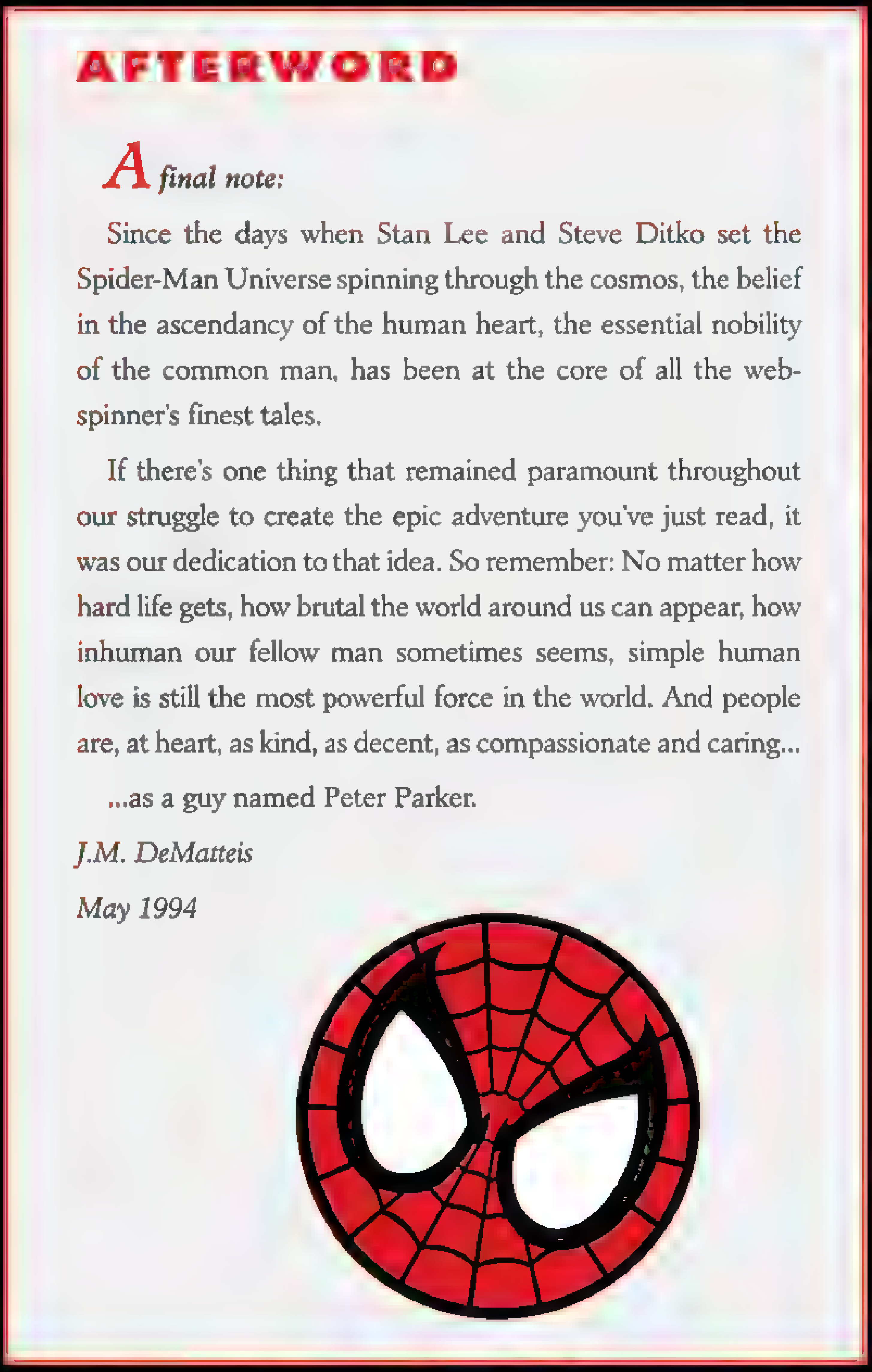
And back we went to our offices and drawing boards and laptops to breathe life into it.

Did we succeed? Depends on who you talk to. Some people thought "Maximum Carnage" was excessively violent. That we subjected our readers to too much darkness before we reached the light. Others opined that you can't really appreciate the light unless you've taken that trip through the dark. That the ending of our story would not have seemed half so hope-filled and uplifting if our characters hadn't crawled through the mire to get there. The truth, I suspect, lies where it often does: somewhere in-between.

No doubt you'll find your own truth as you read the mammoth tale that follows. So sit back, relax, and dive into the longest Spider saga in the wall-crawler's distinguished, three-decade career. We can't promise any free food for your belly...but we can promise to feed your mind.

Enjoy!

SPIDER-MAN: MAXIMUM CARNAGE TPB INTRODUCTION BY J.M. DEMATTEIS



AFTERWORD

A final note:

Since the days when Stan Lee and Steve Ditko set the Spider-Man Universe spinning through the cosmos, the belief in the ascendancy of the human heart, the essential nobility of the common man, has been at the core of all the web-spinner's finest tales.

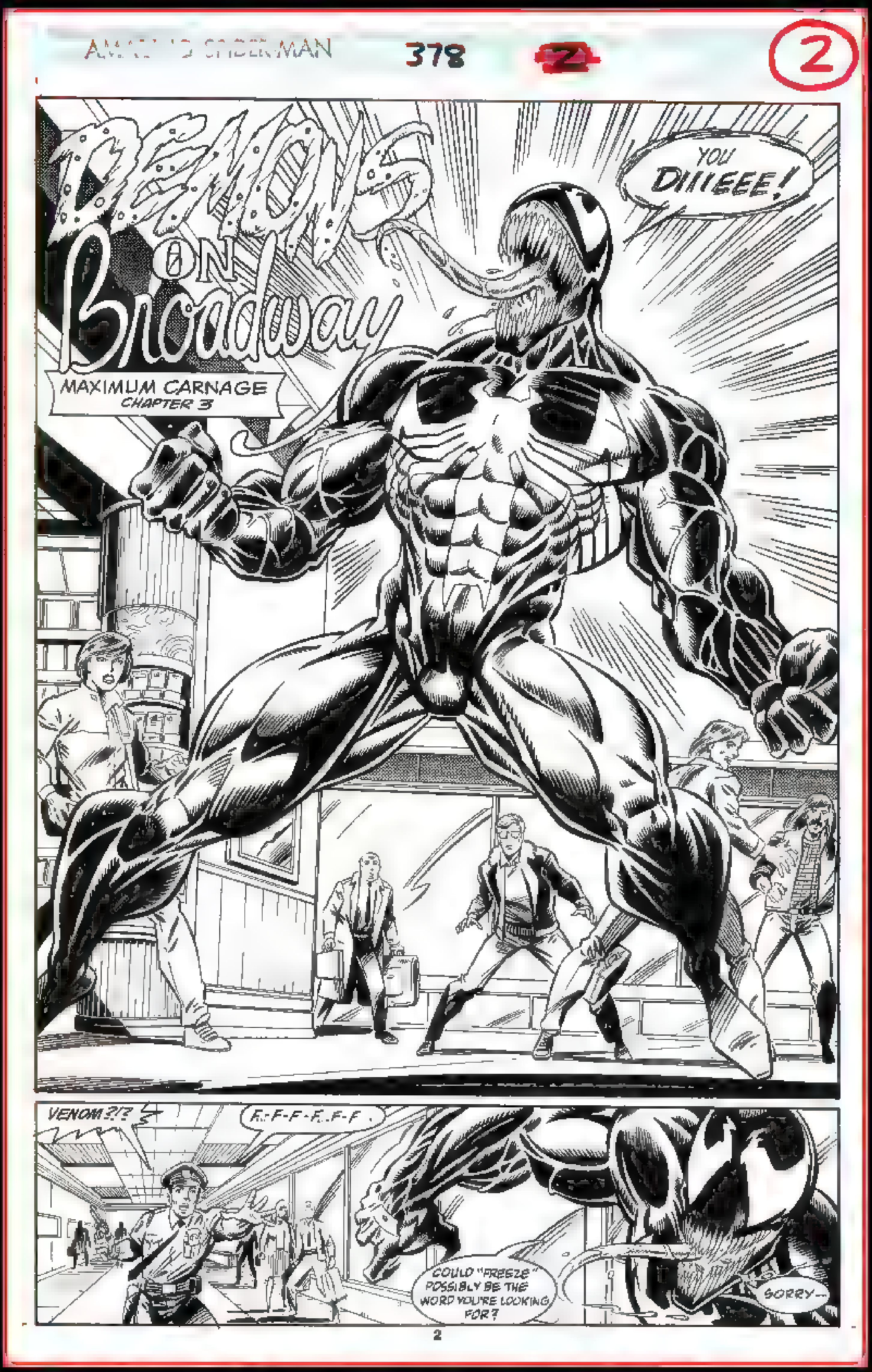
If there's one thing that remained paramount throughout our struggle to create the epic adventure you've just read, it was our dedication to that idea. So remember: No matter how hard life gets, how brutal the world around us can appear, how inhuman our fellow man sometimes seems, simple human love is still the most powerful force in the world. And people are, at heart, as kind, as decent, as compassionate and caring...

...as a guy named Peter Parker.

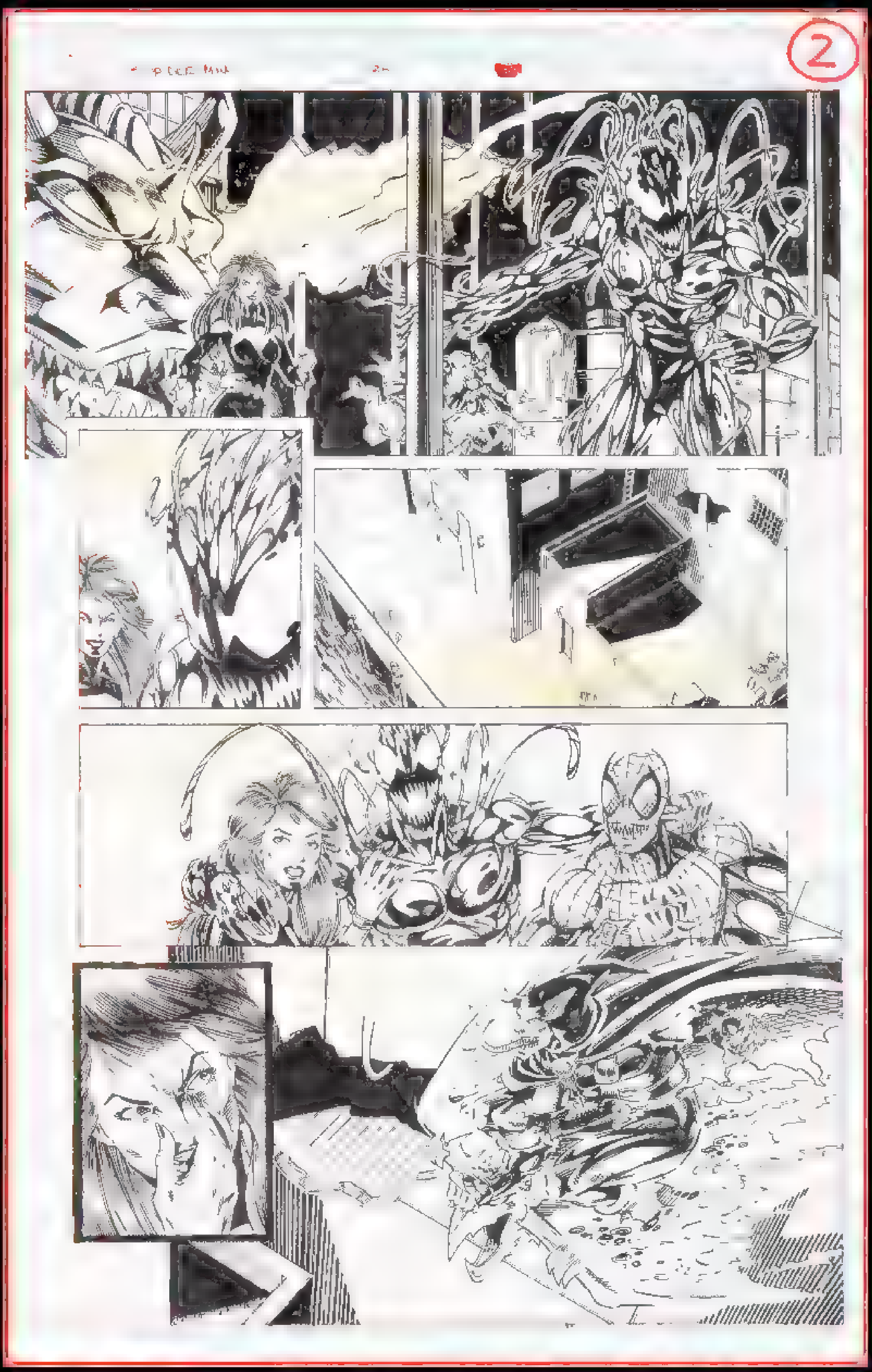
J.M. DeMatteis

May 1994

***SPIDER-MAN: MAXIMUM CARNAGE TPB* AFTERWORD BY J.M. DEMATTEIS**

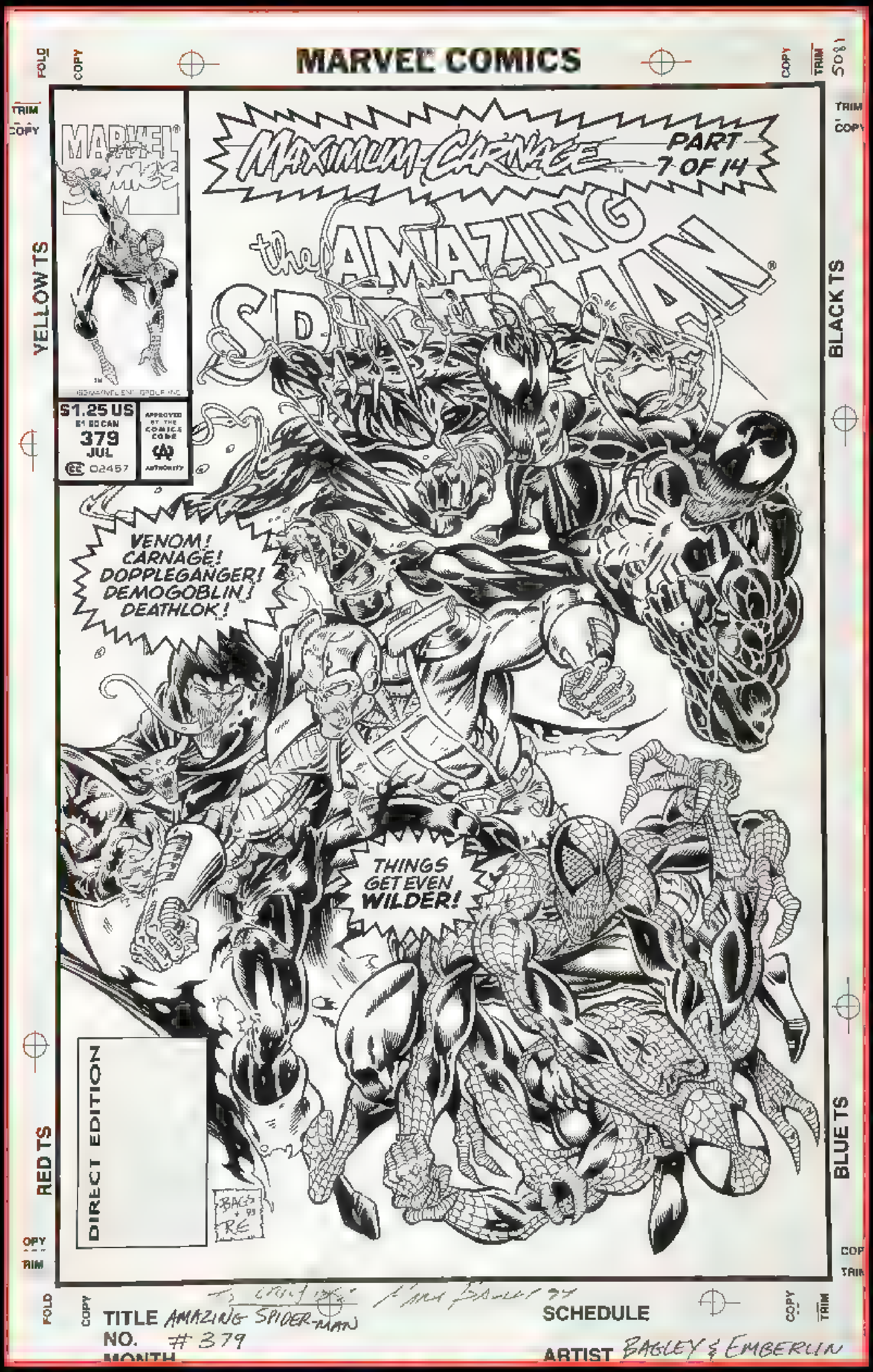

378
2
DEMONS ON Broadway
MAXIMUM CARNAGE CHAPTER 3
YOU DIIIEEE!
VENOM?!?
F-F-F-F-F-F
COULD "FREEZE" POSSIBLY BE THE WORD YOU'RE LOOKING FOR?
SORRY—
2

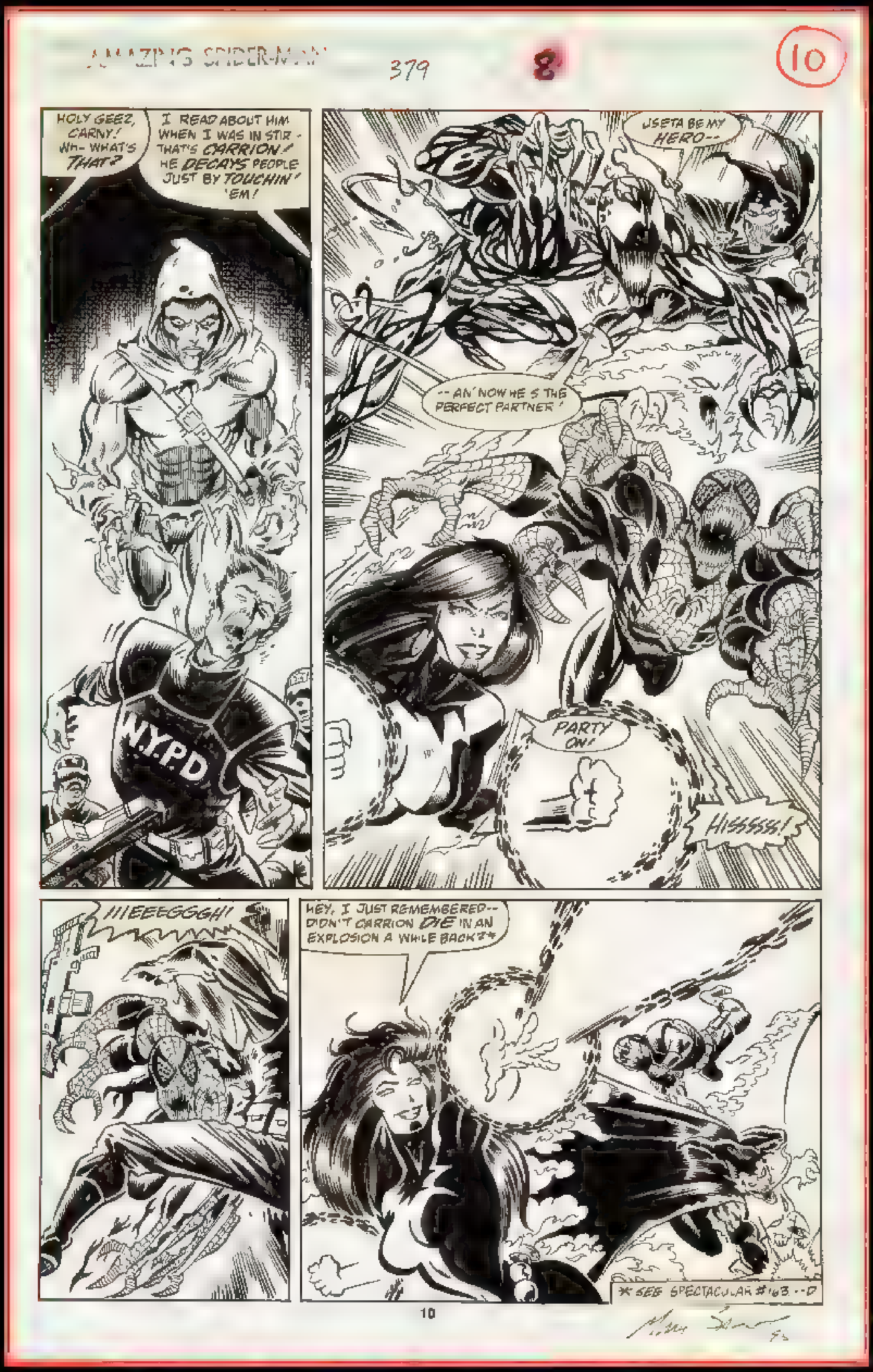
***AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #378*,**
PAGE 2 ART BY MARK BAGLEY & RANDY EMBERLIN



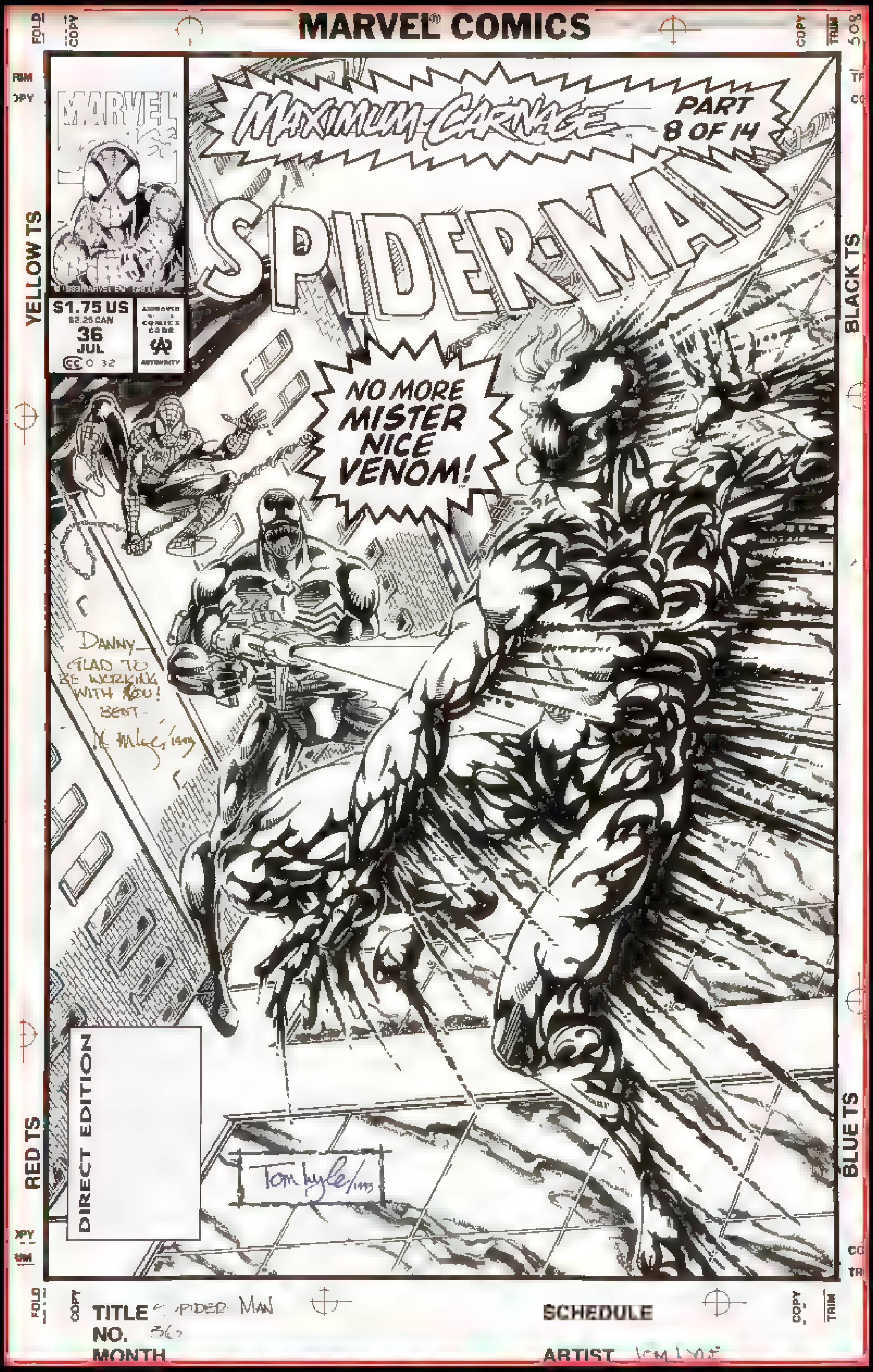
***SPIDER-MAN #35*,**
PAGE 2 ART BY TOM LYLE & SCOTT HANNA

COURTESY OF HERITAGEAUCTIONS.COM

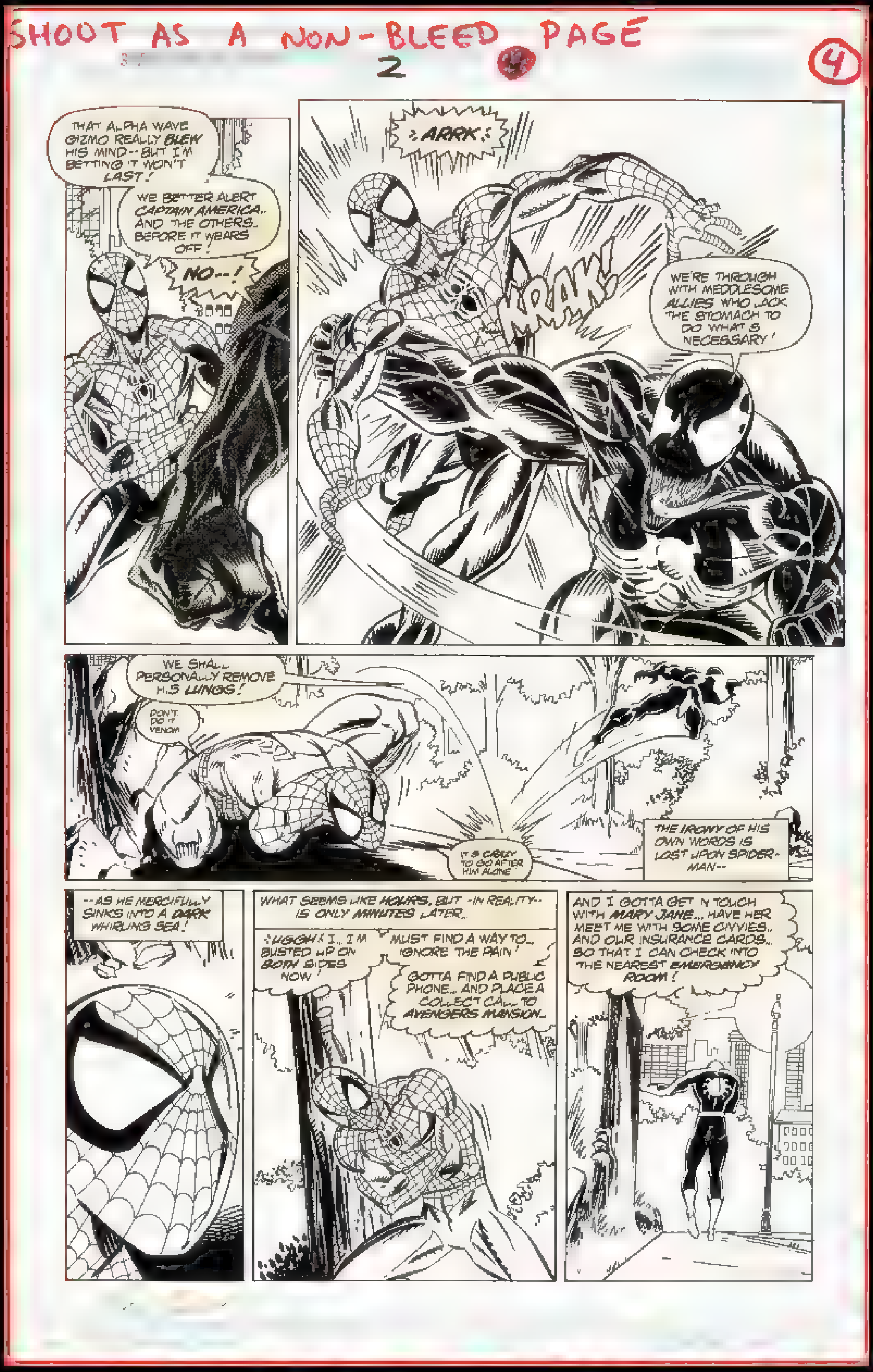

MARVEL COMICS
MAXIMUM CARNAGE PART 7 OF 14
the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN
$1.25 US
379
JUL
VENOM! CARNAGE! DOPPLEGANGER! DEMOGOBLIN! DEATHLOK!
THINGS GET EVEN WILDER!
DIRECT EDITION
YELLOW TS
BLACK TS
RED TS
BLUE TS
TITLE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN
NO. #379
SCHEDULE
ARTIST BAGLEY & EMBERLIN


AMAZING SPIDER-MAN
379
8
10
HOLY GEEZ, CARNY! WH- WHAT'S THAT?
I READ ABOUT HIM WHEN I WAS IN STIR - THAT'S CARRION! HE DECAYS PEOPLE JUST BY TOUCHIN' 'EM!
USETA BE MY HERO--
--AN' NOW HE'S THE PERFECT PARTNER!
N.Y.P.D.
PARTY ON!
HISSSSS!
!!!EEEGGGH!
HEY, I JUST REMEMBERED-- DIDN'T CARRION DIE IN AN EXPLOSION A WHILE BACK?*
*SEE SPECTACULAR #163 --D
10

AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #379 COVER & PAGE 8 ART
BY MARK BAGLEY & RANDY EMBERLIN

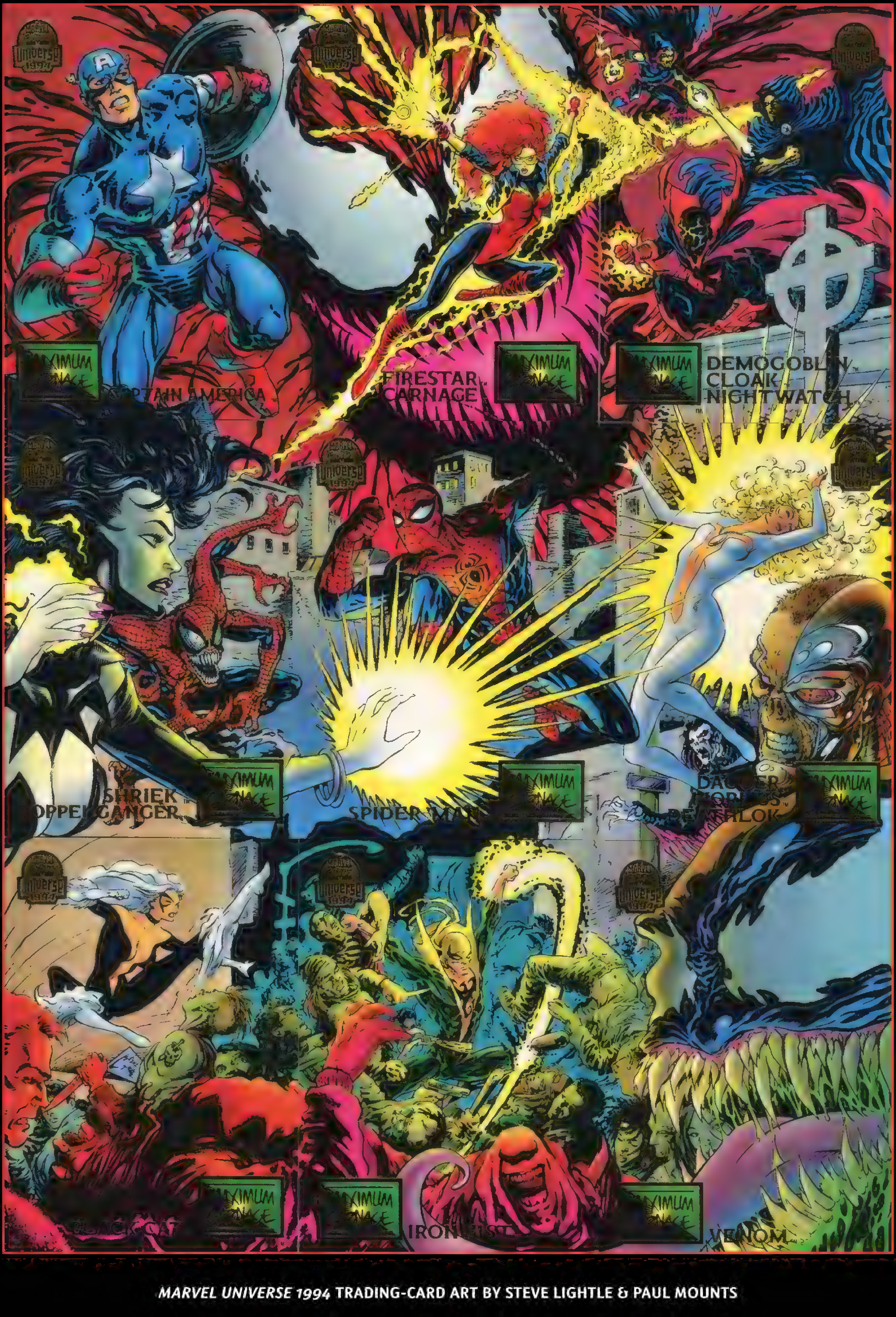

MARVEL COMICS
MAXIMUM CARNAGE PART 8 OF 14
SPIDER-MAN
$1.75 US
36
JUL
NO MORE MISTER NICE VENOM!
DANNY -
GLAD TO BE WORKING WITH YOU!
BEST -
DIRECT EDITION
YELLOW TS
BLACK TS
RED TS
BLUE TS
TITLE SPIDER MAN
NO.
MONTH
SCHEDULE
ARTIST TOM LYLE

SPIDER-MAN #36 COVER ART BY TOM LYLE


SHOOT AS A NON-BLEED PAGE
2
4
THAT ALPHA WAVE GIZMO REALLY BLEW HIS MIND--BUT I'M BETTING IT WON'T LAST!
WE BETTER ALERT CAPTAIN AMERICA.. AND THE OTHERS.. BEFORE IT WEARS OFF!
NO--!
ARRK!
KRAK!
WE'RE THROUGH WITH MEDDLESOME ALLIES WHO LACK THE STOMACH TO DO WHAT'S NECESSARY!
WE SHALL PERSONALLY REMOVE HIS LUNGS!
DON'T DO IT VENOM
IT'S CRAZY TO GO AFTER HIM ALONE
THE IRONY OF HIS OWN WORDS IS LOST UPON SPIDER-MAN--
--AS HE MERCIFULLY SINKS INTO A DARK WHIRLING SEA!
WHAT SEEMS LIKE HOURS, BUT -IN REALITY-- IS ONLY MINUTES LATER..
UGGH! I.. I'M BUSTED UP ON BOTH SIDES NOW!
MUST FIND A WAY TO.. IGNORE THE PAIN!
GOTTA FIND A PUBLIC PHONE... AND PLACE A COLLECT CALL TO AVENGERS MANSION..
AND I GOTTA GET IN TOUCH WITH MARY JANE... HAVE HER MEET ME WITH SOME CIVVIES.. AND OUR INSURANCE CARDS.. SO THAT I CAN CHECK INTO THE NEAREST EMERGENCY ROOM!

SPIDER-MAN UNLIMITED #2, PAGE 4
BY MARK BAGLEY & SAM DE LA ROSA

COURTESY OF HERITAGEAUCTIONS.COM


CAPTAIN AMERICA
FIRESTAR
CARNAGE
DEMOGOBLIN
CLOAK
NIGHTWATCH
SHRIEK
DOPPELGANGER
SPIDER-MAN
DAGGER
MORBIUS
DEATHLOK
BLACK CAT
IRON FIST
VENOM
MAXIMUM CARNAGE
MARVEL UNIVERSE 1994

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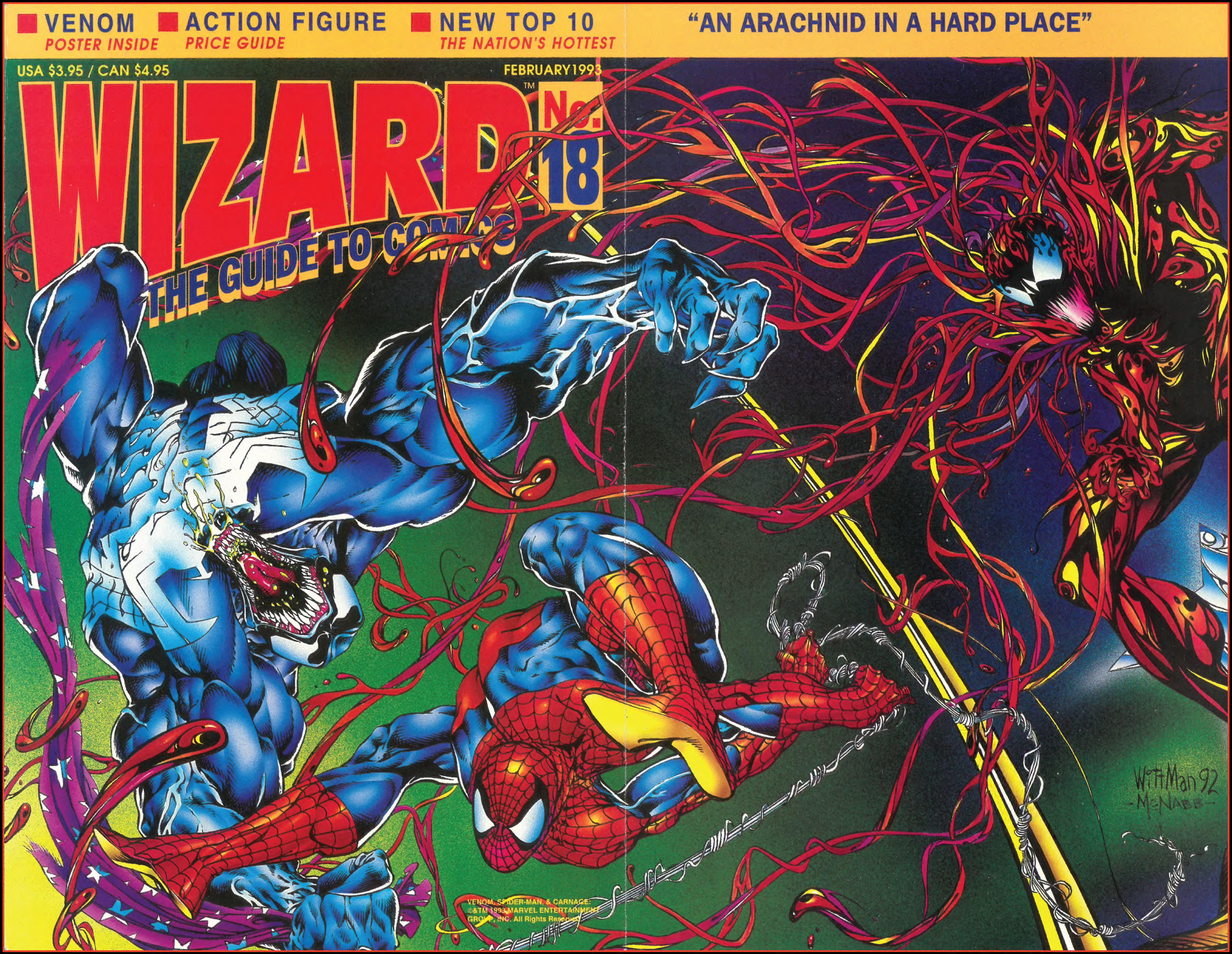
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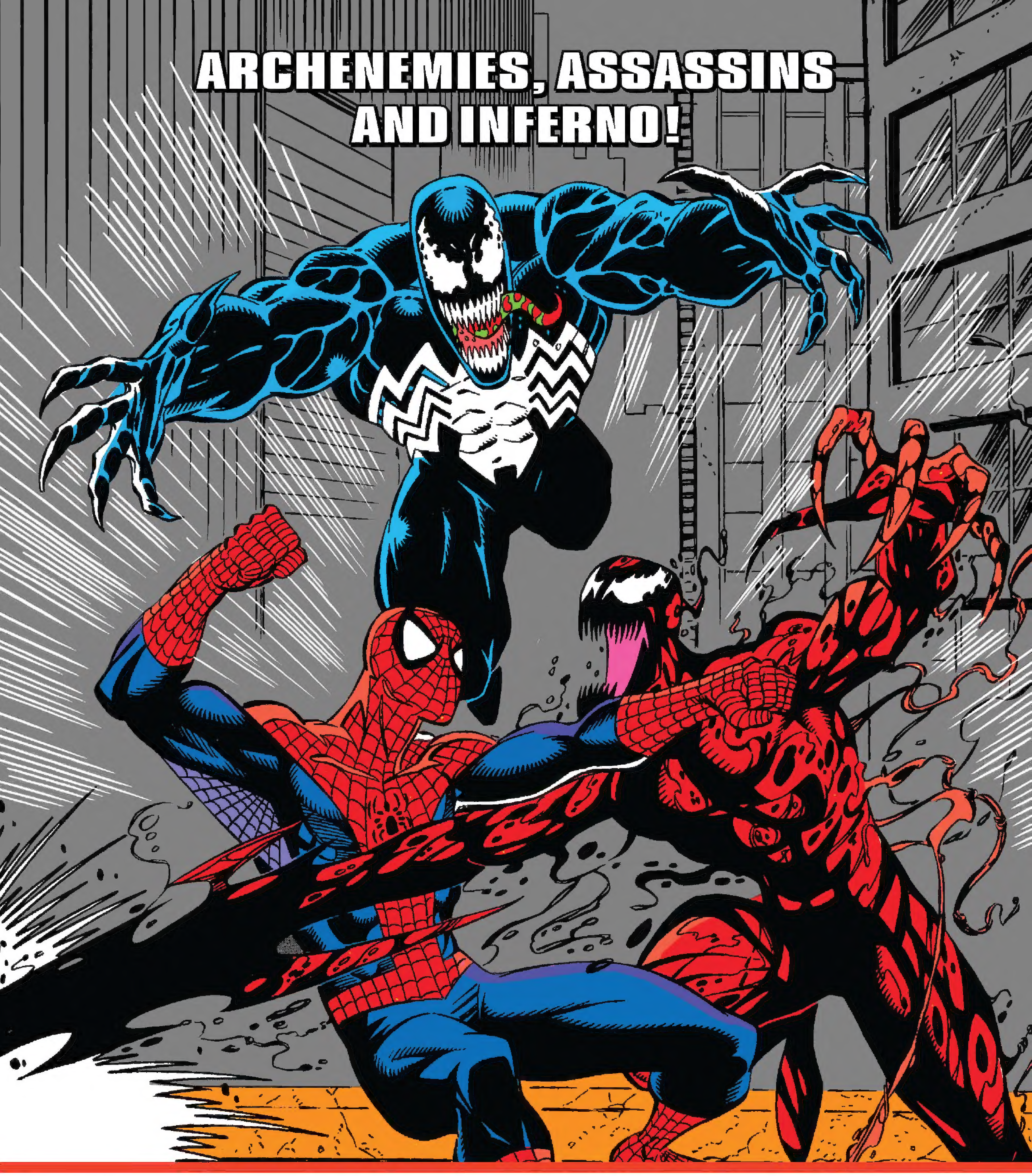
WIZARD #18 FOLDOUT COVER ART BY BART "WITTMAN" SEARS & MARK McNABB

ARCHENEMIES, ASSASSINS AND INFERNO!



Carnage, the spawn of Venom, has assembled an army of the web-slinger's criminally insane adversaries to spread his message of hostility, chaos and wholesale slaughter: Carrion, Demogoblin, Shriek and the Spider-Man Doppelganger! Outmanned and overpowered, the wall-crawler must recruit his own band of super-beings to combat the rising tide of evil: Black Cat, Cloak and Dagger, Firestar, Captain America, Iron Fist, Deathlok, and...Venom?! Spider-Man's worst enemy becomes his uneasy ally in the battle to halt the pure evil of Carnage's mad rampage! Plus: An explosive day for Peter Parker leads him into a savage showdown with the Punisher — and Sabretooth!

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